

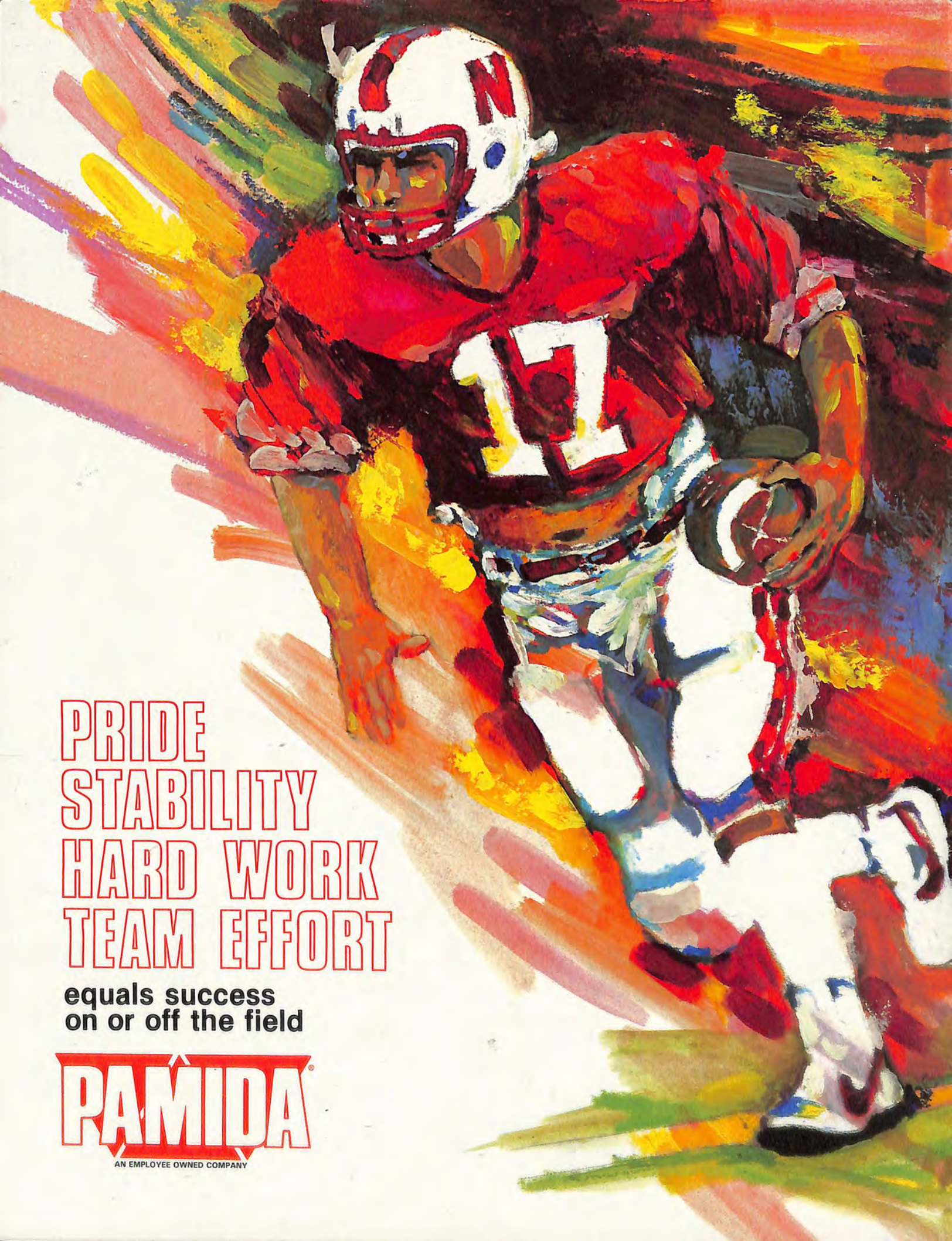
Huskers Illustrated

MAY/JUNE, 1986 \$2.95

**Chris
Spachman**

**He Does More Than
Score Touchdowns**





PRIDE
STABILITY
HARD WORK
TEAM EFFORT

equals success
on or off the field

PAMIDA

AN EMPLOYEE OWNED COMPANY



SUPER VALUE DAYS

BIG 8 SPECIALS

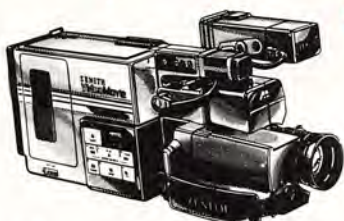
NOW-----IN STOCK-----READY TO PICK UP OR SHIP

***NEBRASKA'S LARGEST OUTSTATE ZENITH DEALER**
***NEBRASKA'S LOWEST PRICES ON ZENITH PRODUCTS**



Video Kingdom

"THE VIDEO EXPERTS IN NEBRASKA"



Zenith VM6000 "All-In-One"
VHS-C CamCorder

The camera and the recorder together in one piece. The hottest product on the market today. Lowest price ever. The tape fits right into the camera. Uses small size VHS-C cassette tape. Mfg. suggested retail price was \$1695.00. 6 Power Zoom Lens. Auto Color. Auto Exposure. Electronic Viewfinder. Complete with batteries and hook up cords.

WHILE
THEY
LAST

\$888.⁸⁸

BLANK TAPE FOR VM6000 OR VM6100 — \$8.⁸⁸ EA.

Zenith WM6100 CamCorder
Same As Above — Plus Auto Focus.

NEW LOW
PRICE

\$988.⁸⁸



Zenith VM7000
CamCorder
SAME AS ABOVE — PLUS
USES FULL SIZE VHS
TAPE

SPECIAL
SALE
PRICE

\$1188.⁸⁸

SPECIAL CARRYING CASE — ADD \$88.⁸⁸

Zenith
8 FT.
Wall
TV



Big Screen Projection System
8 ft. size picture — extra bright
Show on any wall or use optional screen
Hooks up to any video recorder

LOWEST
PRICE
EVER

\$1888.⁸⁸

NEW! Zenith
9" Color TV
• AC/DC • Cable Ready
Works in home or car
WITH FREE
LIGHTER CORD



\$288.⁸⁸



Zenith 12" B&W
AC/DC TV
with Lighter Cord

SALE PRICE **\$78.⁸⁸**



NEW! Zenith VR1810
Video Recorder

The latest in Video Recorders — All the most wanted features — Wireless Remote — 14-day/4 Event Timer — Auto Replay — Instant On — Speed Search — Still Motion — Plus More.

PRICED TOO LOW TO ADVERTISE.
CALL FOR PRICE

Zenith System 3
19" Color TV
With Wireless Remote



\$388.⁸⁸



Zenith Walkabout
4" AC/DC Portable
Personal size TV
with FREE AC Adapter
WHILE
THEY
LAST

\$128.⁸⁸

Blank Video Tape
Zenith T-120 VHS
Case of 10



\$48.⁸⁸

MAIL COUPON



2418 No. Webb Road, Grand Island, Ne.

ORDER BY PHONE — MOST ORDERS SHIPPED SAME DAY

IN NEBRASKA — TOLL FREE
1-800-722-7714

OUT-OF-STATE-CALL
308/381-7714

MAIL TO: VIDEO KINGDOM 2418 No. Webb Road, Grand Island, Ne. 68801

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

PAYMENT: ☐ CHECK ☐ CREDIT CARD ☐ COD \$2.⁰⁰ Extra

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

CARD NO. _____

ITEM ORDERED/PRICE: _____

NEBRASKA RESIDENTS ADD 3 1/2% SALES TAX.



Another Language While You Wait

Just ten minutes a day. That's all it will take for Cliffs Bilingual Books to have you reading and speaking another language. Choose from nine different languages. You'll learn how to read menus, ask questions, carry on a conversation. Even more important, you'll gain the confidence you need to travel on your own in a foreign country. The Bilingual Book method eliminates the need for listening to recordings or doing grammar exercises. It's the fun way to gain a strong working vocabulary in Chinese, French, German, Inglés, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Russian and Spanish. Bilingual Books are available now at your booksellers or send the coupon for postpaid delivery.



To: Cliffs Notes, P.O. Box 80728,
Lincoln, NE 68501 US-046

Please send (indicate quantity) the following
Bilingual Books at \$12.95 each:

Chinese _____; French _____; German _____; Inglés _____; Italian _____;
Japanese _____; Norwegian _____; Russian _____; Spanish _____

Total
Amount enclosed: \$ _____ ☐ Bill my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard.

Card No. _____ Expiration Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



P.O. Box 80728,
Lincoln, NE 68501

Huskies Illustrated

Executive Board of Advisors

Donald R. Peterson, Omaha National Bank, Omaha
 Alan Baird, Coca Cola Bottling Co., Lincoln
 Stan Maly, First National Lincoln, Lincoln
 John Cochran, Norwest Banks, Omaha
 John Z. Segal, Great Plains Container Co., Hastings
 Gene Thissen, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln
 Lee H. Sapp, Lee Sapp Enterprises, Omaha
 Lee A. Sapp, Lee's Ford-Mercury, Ashland
 J. William Henry, 1st National Bank, Omaha
 Tom Cullinane, Southwest Tire, Omaha
 I. R. "Bud" Smith, CBS Real Estate, Omaha
 Wendel K. Heckerson, Mid-Continent Bottlers, Omaha
 William J. Quinlan, Internorth, Omaha
 Tim Schmaad, AKSARBEN, Omaha
 Byron Wolff, Pamida, Omaha
 Mike McCaleb, Guarantee Mutual Life, Omaha
 E. A. Conley, Guarantee Mutual Life, Omaha
 Jerry Gabelman, Dairyland Insurance, Lincoln
 Art Thompson, Lincoln Telephone, Lincoln
 Hal Joyner, Lincoln Tour & Travel, Lincoln
 Don Dinkelman, Lincoln Tour & Travel, Lincoln
 Bill Carley, Lincoln Tour & Travel, Lincoln
 Susan Sloehr, N Street Drive-In, Lincoln
 Cecil Metzger, Norden Labs, Lincoln
 Mel Adema, New York Life, Lincoln
 Kurt Kollmorgen, New York Life, Lincoln
 Duane Demaree, New York Life, Omaha
 Don Spinar, Security Mutual Life, Lincoln
 Mark Oppgaard, Nebraska Bookstore, Lincoln
 Larry Snyder, Snyder Industries, Lincoln
 Dick Fitzgerald, Commercial Federal, Lincoln
 Bob Burdge, Commercial Federal, Omaha
 Allan Caplan, Applause Video, Omaha
 Rex Carpenter, Carpenter Cars, Grand Island
 Nebraska Touchdown Club
 Occidental Nebraska, Omaha
 J. Richard Spellman, Cliffs Notes, Inc., Lincoln
 Mike Quinn, Fairbury Sales Co., Fairbury
 Don Dolejs, Standard Distributing Co., Fremont
 Harry Hoch, Sr., H & H Distributing Co., Grand Island
 Les Lawless, Lawless Distributing Co., Hastings
 Jerry Wurtele, Wurtele Distributing Co., Nebraska City
 Gary Blinn, Norfolk Beverage Co., Norfolk
 Barbara J. Feltman, Capitol Liquors, Inc., Omaha
 Chuck Anderson, Central Distributing Co., North Platte
 Royce Bingham, Bingham Distributing Co., Scottsbluff
 Jim McCollister, Valentine Beverage Inc., Valentine
 Al Gilmore, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Nebraska, Omaha
 Nick Vuko, Walker Tire, Lincoln
 Steve Sorum, Nebraska Gasohol Committee, Lincoln
 Jerry Carlo, Alpo Petfoods, Inc., Allentown, Pa.
 Paul Fisher, Truesdell Distributing Company, Omaha
 Jim Foley, Truesdell Distributing Company, Omaha
 Dale Herman, D & D Distributors, Lincoln

Staff

Publisher: Mike Henry
 Associate Publisher: Charles Brackin
 Managing Editor: Wayne Bishop
 Production Manager: Melania Carpenter Ross
 Administrative Asst.: Debbie Gahm
 Public Relations Dir.:
 Marketing Director: Mel Johnson
 Contributing Writers: Mike Babcock
 Lincoln Journal & Star
 Curt McKeever
 Lincoln Journal & Star
 Wayne Bishop
 Tulsa
 Kevin Jeffrey
 Tulsa
 John Bills
 Lincoln

Photographers:



Features

- The New Boss** 14
 Danny Nee takes over basketball coaching spot.
- Chris Spachman** 18
 He can do more than score touchdowns.
- The Elite "500 Club"** 24
 Lawrence Pete becomes first Husker to bench 500 pounds.
- Airing Things Out** 30
 Huskers make passing game improvement a priority.
- Rough Road To NCAA** 40
 NU cagers lost Hoppen early but responded with class.
- Glad To Be Back** 46
 Gamble and Gatson recovering from knee surgery.
- Believes In His Product** 48
 Dave Gillespie enjoys role as new-on-campus recruiting chief.
- Coaching Changes** 51
 Tony Samuel joins football staff.
- Tim Neumann** 54
 New mat boss accepted big challenge.
- Is A Scholarship Enough?** 58
 There is a growing movement to get more benefits for college athletes.

Departments

- Letters** 6
- Potpourri** 10
- Centerspread** 32
- On The Cover**

Chris Spachman will be starting at defensive tackle for the third straight year at Nebraska. But the big Kansas City native is still looking for all-star honors. John Bills took the cover photo.

In The Next Issue

Our big summer special complete with a preview of the Big Eight Conference and an early look at 1987 recruits.

Huskies Illustrated...

(ISSN 0279-3474) is published fifteen times annually: weekly during September, October and November, except no issue will be published the week of an open date, and monthly in December, February, April and June by University Sports Publications, Inc. 7418 East 42nd Place, Suite 400, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145. Second class postage paid at Tulsa, Oklahoma and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Please send address changes to *Huskies Illustrated*, Circulation Office, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.

Subscriptions — \$29.95 per year. Nebraska residents add 4% sales tax. For subscription information, write *Huskies Illustrated*, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.

Permission to reprint material contained in this magazine must be obtained in writing from the publisher. Telephone number for editorial and advertising offices is (418) 664-0082. Lithoed in U.S.A. Back issues may be obtained when available at \$4.00 each. When ordering, include volume and number of issue(s) desired.

It's the "leased" we can do!

A leased phone from Lincoln Telephone is still a wise choice for your telephone requirements. Leased means more for you: low monthly payments, worry-free maintenance and stylish, top-quality phones at all LT&T Phone Centers.



Get more from the "leased." Stop by or call your Lincoln Telephone Phone Center or business office for details.

Lincoln Telephone 
Your communication connection.



Whether you're single, just married, or own a growing business, get the most out of life... innovative Life Insurance from Guarantee Mutual Life. Where Life just got better!

Call Guarantee Mutual Life today and make your life, a whole lot better!

 **Life just
got BETTER**
**Guarantee Mutual Life
Company**

Guarantee Centre, 8801 Indian Hills Drive, Omaha, NE 68114 (402) 390-7300

Letters

Dear Huskers:

I am enclosing this letter about how I may purchase or rent VHS tapes of past Nebraska football games.

This is what I am interested in:

- 1970 Nebraska-Oklahoma
- 1971 Nebraska-Oklahoma
- 1972 Orange Bowl game

If you know anybody, please contact me at this address or phone number.

Ralph E. Gregory
1126 Phillip Court
Harrisburg, PA 17112
717-652-0876
Thank you.

EDITOR'S NOTE: C.A. Roh has a Beta videotape of the 1971 Nebraska-Oklahoma Game of the Century. His address is 13544 Vandalia Drive, Rockville, MD 20853. Thanks to Clete for writing. Other writers to the Big Red Mailbag have also indicated they have some Cornhusker games on tape, (see below).

Dear Huskers;

I am a subscriber to your magazine and do enjoy it. I have had a small card with football schedules 1981-85 on it. Each year we do plan a trip to see a game. Will you please print the 1986 schedule in your magazine as soon as possible so we may make our fall plans.

Sincerely,
Marjorie Barz
Billings, MT

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks for the kind words. We're including the 1986 Cornhusker schedule here, just for you. Sept. 6 — Florida State in Lincoln (at night on national television); Sept. 20 — at Illinois; Sept. 27 — Oregon in Lincoln; Oct. 4 — at South Carolina; Oct. 11 — Oklahoma State in Lincoln; Oct. 18 — Missouri in Lincoln; Oct. 25 — at Colorado; Nov. 1 — Kansas State in Lincoln; Nov. 8 — at Iowa State; Nov. 15 — at Kansas; Nov. 22 — Oklahoma in Lincoln; Jan. 1 — Another major bowl game, we hope.

Dear Huskers:

In response to the letter from Carol Lou of Concord, Ca., I have a VHS tape of the 1971 Nebraska vs. Oklahoma "shoot-out." I also have, unedited, Lyell Bremser's call of this classic battle.

I am a collector of old Nebraska games. I have such great games as: NU vs. Alabama 1977 and NU vs. Oklahoma 1978. These are only two of the some

20 games I have on either video or audio tape.

Can you direct me to anyone who would have any games? I am particularly interested in games from the early to mid-70's. I would greatly appreciate any help you could give me.

Paul Jacobsen
195 1st Street
Utica, NE 68456
402-534-2005

Dear Huskers:

Would you please publish the two following lists:

(1) The names of the players who redshirted this year.

(2) The names of the scholarship players who in the last four years have left Nebraska and where did they go.

Thank you.

Mark Glass
Ebensburg, PA

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mark, Nebraska no longer releases a complete list of its redshirted players. More and more, schools try to use the Cornhuskers' numbers against them during recruiting. Coach Tom Osborne recently said that there was a considerable amount of "negative recruiting" in 1986.

Some of the players coming off redshirts who could have some impact this fall are: cornerback John Custard, split end Lorenzo Hicks, I-back Jeff Wheeler, middle guard Lawrence Pete, tight end Willie Griffin, offensive guard Andy Keeler, defensive end Steve Stanard, middle guard Mark Mendel and punter John Kroeker.

Jason Gamble was redshirted because of an injury and academic problems.

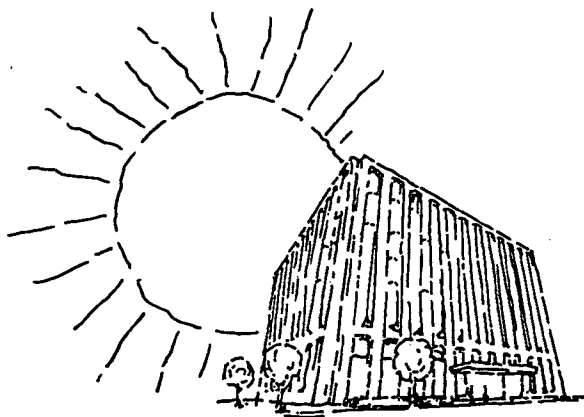
Other schools are also using lists of the second type against Nebraska during recruiting. The thing about lists of those who are no longer playing is, many of them were forced to give up football because of injuries.

Phil Rogers, a middle guard from Tucson, Ariz., who would have been a senior in the fall, quit the team prior to spring practice began because he's been bothered by injuries. He'll remain on scholarship, however, until he completes his degree.

Todd Fisher, a former cornerback from Omaha Burke High School, is another example of a player who remained on scholarship but couldn't continue because of injuries.

Dear Huskers:

I'm a real Big Red fan. I was 84 in



SUMMER MARKDOWNS.

For just \$44* per couple per night, you can get into summer... and into one of our beautiful rooms.

We'll also provide two free cocktails to start the relaxation process.

From then on, the choices are yours. Relax by the pool. Shop downtown via the air-conditioned skywalk. Dine memorably in *The Renaissance*.

When you visit the Cornhusker this summer, everything's relaxed, including the prices.



*Per night rate, single or double occupancy, based on availability.
Tax not included. Advance reservations required.
Not applicable to groups. Offer expires August 29, 1986.

Cornhusker Hotel
AND CONFERENCE CENTER

333 South 13th Street on Cornhusker Square
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508, (402) 474-7474

GO BIG RED!

IF IT'S FOOTBALL...



IT'S NEBRASKA!

IF IT'S VIDEO...

IT'S *Applause*



3 LOCATIONS IN LINCOLN OPEN 10 to 10
• MOVIES • BIG SCREENS • VCR'S • AND MORE

Applause VIDEO™

70TH & "A" • 1033 "O" STREET • 233 N. 48TH STREET
• CLOCKTOWER EAST • GOLD'S GALLERIA • 48th & "O"
483-7669 476-8609 464-5678

Where Can You Find A 8500-Gallon Pickle Barrel?



That's a lot of pickles. You can't buy an item like that off the shelf.

So, when a major pickle producing company needed huge 8500-gallon vats for processing their pickles, they came to Snyder. And our Custom-Engineered Products Division came through for them, just as they have for hundreds of customers across the nation.

It's easy when you have more than 26 years of experience in the plastics industry, expertise in a full range of plastics design and production techniques, and the world's largest rotational molding facility. That's right. The world's largest. In fact, that's where this king-sized pickle vat was manufactured.

We also manufacture a lot of things you *can* buy off the shelf — like tubs and showers, storage tanks and refuse containers. And we do it right here in Nebraska.

Professionals In Plastics For Over 26 Years

ST SNYDER INDUSTRIES, INC.

P.O. Box 4583 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68504

January, but I'm really a young 65. I went to Lincoln in 1922 and watched my first Big Red game, Nebraska-Notre Dame, in the old football field before they built the stadium.

I'm sure Nebraska would have beaten Oklahoma if they hadn't lost three big defensive players.

I'd like to mention my favorite lineman, Ed Weir, when he held Red Grange to one three-yard gain the whole game. My biggest thrills came when Bobby Reynolds scored 156 points, all on long runs, except one touchdown inside the five-yard line.

Also, I do not know what happened to the *Huskers Illustrated* that was to have come in the middle of December. It's probably the most important one of the year before the New Year's day game. I waited until the 24th, then reported to the post office, but they won't do anything. I hope it is possible that they can send me one. I had them all sent first class, so I don't know why I didn't receive one.

Eugene E. Brouillette
Cudahy, CA

EDITOR'S NOTE: Hopefully, you received the pre-bowl issue. If not, let us know, and we'll send you a back issue with our apologies.

Dear Huskers:

I just wanted to thank you for the excellent magazine, all the great pictures and write-ups. I also wanted to express my pleasure that our head coach, Tom Osborne, is a Christian. He comes in contact with a lot of impressionable kids, and I think it's just great that he is such a good example for them. Looking forward to a great 1986. Thank you.

P. Gates
Broken Bow, NE

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks for the kind words. We agree with your assessment of Tom Osborne. There's not a better coach in the country.

Dear Huskers:

In the March-April, 1986 issue of *Huskers Illustrated*, a Carol Lou of Concord, CA, wanted a videotape of the Game of the Century. Can you furnish me her address. Thank you.

Ray Spearman
227 E. 3rd Street
Ainsworth, NE

EDITOR'S NOTE: Carol, here's your chance. Contact Ray Spearman at the above address. ♦



It's **your** style at Ak-Sar-Ben! From a casual atmosphere to elegant dining, fresh air outdoors to air-conditioned comfort, hot dogs or steak — the variety is endless!

Enjoy your style Ak-Sar-Ben style in beautifully remodeled facilities. More escalators, more color, more air-conditioning, and a brand new restaurant, the Nebraska Room will add to the excitement of Thoroughbred racing at its finest!

1986 Season — Now through August 24th!

POST TIMES: 4 P.M. Wednesday through Sunday
2 P.M. Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays
No one under 12 admitted.
General admission still just \$2.

AK-SAR-BEN
Races

Nebraska's #1 Tourist Attraction!

Potpourri

Inside Husker sports

walkons

At least 42 high school football players have indicated they will walk on at Nebraska next season, including four from state champion Omaha Creighton

Prep and three out-of-staters.

The four from Creighton Prep who have indicated they will walk on are kicker Gregg Barrios, defensive ends Scott Kurtz and Joe Spitzenberger, and center Bret Burianek.

Barrios and Kurtz are among four first-team selections on *Lincoln's Sunday Journal and Star* Super State team. The others are Dan Svehla, an offensive guard from Clarkson, Ne., and Steve Denn, a split end from Norfolk, Ne.

Kicker Tom Janky from Grand Island and running back Jim Gilbert from Table Rock were second-team Super State.

Nebraska's out-of-state walkons are Robert McAllister, an offensive tackle from Council Bluffs, Iowa; David Trupp,

a defensive end from Topeka, Kan., and Jerry Dunlap, a quarterback from Ventura, Calif.

Trupp was a teammate of Rick Wendland, a Cornhusker scholarship recruit, at Washburn Rural High School.

Dunlap passed for a record 2,320 yards during his two-year varsity career at Buena High School in Ventura. He also set school career records for total offense (2,865 yards), passing attempts (418) and pass completions (193).

He was a two-time All-Conference selection and first-team All-Ventura County his senior year.

Dunlap's parents, Jerry and Mary, both were born and raised in Nebraska and attended Kearney State College.

His father is the athletic director at Ventura Junior College.

Dunlap is also a placekicker and holds the Buena High single-game record for field goals, four.

The Cornhuskers also picked up a pair of scholarship recruits since the NCAA letter-of-intent signing date in mid-February, Jeff Mills, a 6-foot-4, 215-pound defensive end from Montclair, N.J., and Robert Hicks, a 5-11, 165-pound defensive back from Los Angeles.

Mills picked Nebraska over Texas, Boston College, Syracuse and Tennessee. He was included in the *Sporting News* Top 100 "Best of the Blue Chips," and recruiting analyst Max Emfinger's Northeast Fabulous 58.

He was a member of the *Newark, N.J., Star-Ledger* All-State team, playing for a Montclair High team that finished with a 10-1 record. Its only loss came in the state championship game.

Mills runs the 40-yard dash in :04.7. He's a hurdler and runs a leg on an 800-meter relay team in track.

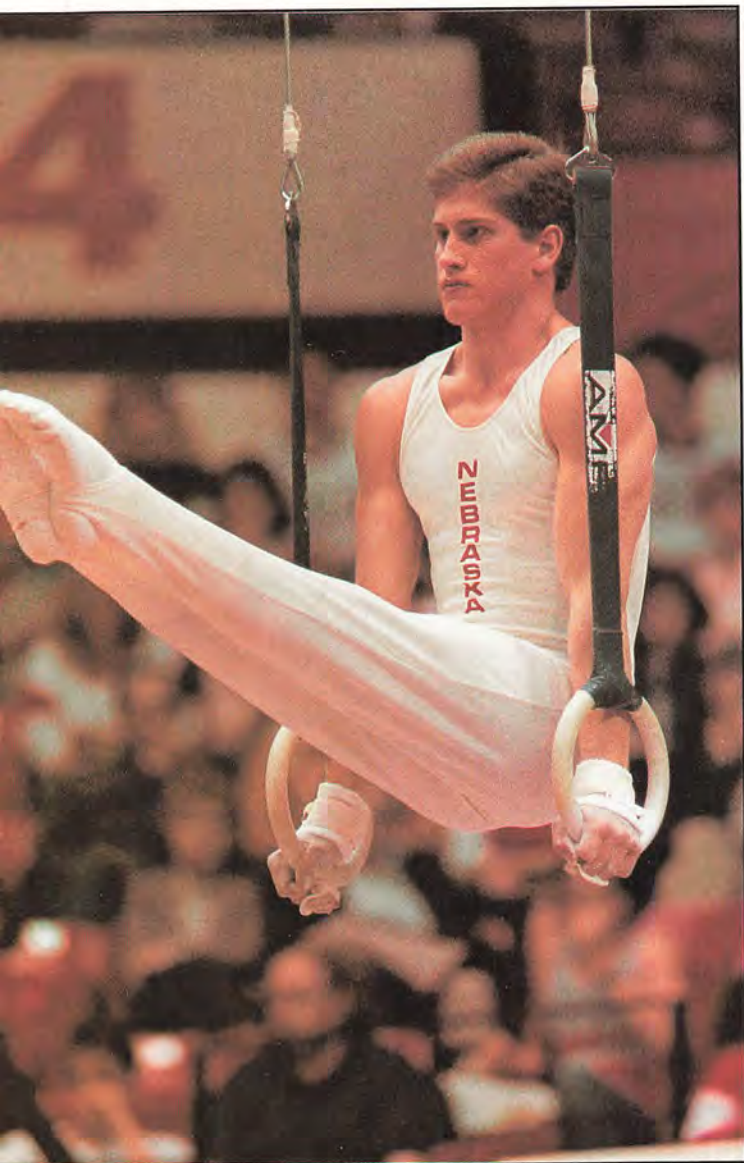
"I've always followed Nebraska. They've always got one of the most exciting teams in the country," Mills said after signing a letter-of-intent.

He picked the Cornhuskers not only because of their success but also because the program is "set up for the student-athlete."

Mills was the second player from New Jersey to commit to Nebraska. Billy Williams, a fullback from Deptford Township High School, is the other.

Williams, however, has not yet signed a letter-of-intent. He was one of six players who made verbal commitments to Nebraska but planned to walk on if they couldn't meet new NCAA freshman eligibility requirements.

Hicks was one of those six. He's since removed the academic deficiencies and is



Wes Suter was NU's highest finisher in the All-Around at fourth place.

eligible to compete and receive scholarship aid next fall.

The other four, all of whom are still committed to walking on, are Barry Thomas, a defensive back from Los Angeles; Leon Otis, a quarterback-defensive back from Los Angeles; Darwin Snyder, a wingback-defensive back from Winnebago, Ne.; and Shane Lair, a defensive end from Lincoln, Ne.

here we go again...

Nebraska's season football opener has been moved from Sept. 13 to Sept. 6 to accommodate ABC television. The Cornhuskers will play Florida State in the first night game in history at Memorial Stadium. Temporary lights will be installed for the 7 p.m. contest, which will be the second half of an ABC college football double-header.

The first game is Oklahoma-UCLA.

Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne says he agreed to the switch because "it would get us some television money and exposure. Originally, they'd talked about having it in the afternoon (Sept. 6) and Oklahoma-UCLA at night. But Oklahoma and UCLA refused to play at night. 'At night' means 7 p.m., so it probably won't be dark until the second half. I guess that's all right."

What isn't all right in Osborne's opinion is the fact that Florida State will still have one game under its belt before coming to Lincoln. The Seminoles open against Toledo a week earlier.

Osborne contacted Oregon, South Carolina and even Kansas State "to see if we could get a game before Florida State." Since he didn't have any success, "we'll just have to play better, I guess. It does give us an extra week to prepare for Illinois."

The Cornhuskers play the Fighting Illini on Sept. 20 in Champaign, Ill.

catastrophic gymnastics

So you think you've got problems? The Nebraska men's gymnastics team finished second in the NCAA Championships, held at the Bob Devaney Sports Center in early April, by .30 of a point.

The frustrating part was, that difference was the result of a protest, or rather, four protests, lodged by Cornhusker Coach Francis Allen during the team competition.

Under a new rule, coaches are allowed four protests at the NCAA meet, but if the fourth is disallowed, .30 is deducted from the team's score.

That's why, after the meet, Allen

contended: "I lost my sixth national championship due to a technicality."

Without the penalty deduction, Nebraska's final score would have been the same as Arizona State's, 283.90.

The problem, as Allen saw it, was in the judging during the high bar competition, when he lodged three of his protests, contending that his athletes weren't properly credited for executing extremely difficult "D" moves. His protest on behalf of Kevin Davis caused Davis' score to be raised from 9.25 to 9.4.

But protests on behalf of Terry Gillespie and Tom Schlesinger were disallowed.

"The whole thing was over the first three D moves. The judges just did not get them. That's pretty basic. If a kid does a routine, he gets .2 back. If he does two, he gets .4 back. All three

executed D moves.

"Gillespie and Schlesinger each did two D moves. Davis was not raised enough," said Allen, who contended that Gillespie's score should have been raised to 9.45 instead of 9.4.

Allen was aware of the new rule.

"We got the brunt of this whole thing," he said. "Whoever was judging the high bar didn't know what they were doing. Call it a judging error. That's what it was."

Don Robinson, the Arizona State coach, said: "Gymnastics meets are won on technicalities. I'm darn glad to have the gold. It's been a long time — I've spent 18 years in coaching. I'm glad Francis handed it to me."

The runner-up finish was Nebraska's second in a row. Last season, the Corn-

Neil Palmer performs on the pommel horse in the NCAA championships.





LEE'S FORD-MERCURY

NEW AND USED CARS & TRUCKS
FULL PARTS & SERVICE
RENT-A-CAR

"It Pays To Drive To Ashland"

1602 SILVER STREET, ASHLAND, NE

789-7155 • LINCOLN

342-6767 • OMAHA

944-3367 • ASHLAND



LEE SAPP LEASING

LEASING PLANS TAILORED TO FIT YOUR NEEDS
DAY — WEEK — MONTH — LONG TERM

9902 SOUTH 148th STREET

OMAHA, NE 68138

402/895-3113



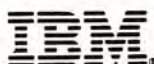
LEE SAPP COMPUTER SERVICES & SALES

TAX RETURN PREPARATION (Individual & Business)
ACCOUNTING & BOOKKEEPING SERVICES
OFFICE EQUIPMENT, COMPUTER
& PRINTER SERVICES

9904 SOUTH 148th

OMAHA, NE 68138

402/895-2650



ASHLAND STATE BANK

COMPLETE MODERN BANKING FACILITIES
CHECKING & SAVINGS ACCOUNTS
SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES • ALL TYPES OF LOANS
VISA & MASTERCARD • SAVINGS CERTIFICATES
DRIVE-IN BANKING

"You Really Rate At Ashland State"

2433 SILVER STREET, ASHLAND, NE

944-2111 • ASHLAND

341-5123 • OMAHA



LEE SAPP INSURANCE

COMPLETE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR
HOME — AUTO — BUSINESS — LIFE — HEALTH

9904 SOUTH 148th STREET

OMAHA, NE 68138

402/895-0990



AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL

LOCAL, OUT OF TOWN &
WORLDWIDE RESERVATIONS
RENT-A-CAR AND TRUCK OF NEBRASKA, INC.

311 E. LOCUST

CARTER LAKE, IOWA 51510

AIRPORT — 712/347-6008

WEST OMAHA — 402/895-3113



huskers were second to Ohio State.

The team competition was one of three disappointments Nebraska suffered over the NCAA weekend. The Cornhuskers' Wes Suter, the defending NCAA all-around champion, finished fourth after slipping in both his floor exercise and pommel horse routines.

"The mistake on the pommel horse killed me. You can't fall off an event and still win the NCAAAs," said Suter, this year's winner of the prestigious Nissen Award as the nation's outstanding collegiate gymnast.

Allen, however, was proud of Suter, noting: "Wes came back pretty darn good. When he made that mistake on the floor exercise, he recovered and lost the minimum amount of points.

"A champion will do that."

The all-around champion was Stanford's Jon Louis, who finished with a season-high score of 57.60. Brian Ginsberg of UCLA was second (57.35). Dan Hayden of Arizona State was third (57.00).

Suter's point total was 56.90.

Nebraska's other all-around point totals were 56.55 by Davis, good for 11th place; 56.50 by Schlesinger, who was 12th, and 56.15 by Mike Epperson, who finished 15th.

The Cornhuskers' hat-trick of frustration was completed in the individual event finals. Nebraska didn't have an individual champion, the first time that's happened since 1979.

In fact, the parallel bars was the only individual event in which Cornhuskers placed in the top six.

Davis and Schlesinger tied for fourth and fifth, and Suter was sixth.

The three sessions drew 11,704 fans, up by 530 from last year's championship meet in Lincoln. The team-qualifying and all-around finals drew 3,425. The team finals drew 3,697, and the individual finals drew 4,582.

The NCAA meet drew a record 27,027 at the Devaney Sports Center in 1982. Next year it will be held in Los Angeles...

Nebraska breezed to its second consecutive Big Eight men's gymnastics title at the Hilton Coliseum in Ames, Iowa. The Cornhuskers scored a season-high 283.75 points to out-distance runner-up Oklahoma, which finished with 280.10 points. Iowa State was third, scoring 271.60 points.

Suter, Schlesinger and Epperson finished second, third and fourth, respectively, in the all-around competition, won by Oklahoma's Mike Rice. Suter

finished at 107.80. Rice, a junior from Garden City, Kan., scored 108.55 points.

Three Cornhuskers finished first in individual events. Suter and Oklahoma's Carlo Sabino tied for first in floor exercise. Suter and Epperson tied on the high bar. Epperson tied Mark Steves of Oklahoma in the vault, and Schlesinger tied Rice on the p-bars.

After the team competition, Allen noted: "Realistically, we couldn't have asked for more. I figure we hit about 80 percent of our routines."

basketball recruits

The first two recruits for the Nebraska men's basketball team were Beau Reid and Jeff Rekeweg (pronounced "wreck-away").

Reid is the son of Arden Reid, a veteran high school coach in Lancaster, Ohio, who was hired by Cornhusker Coach Danny Nee as a part-time assistant.

Beau Reid is a 6-7 forward and guard who was a first team All-Ohio selection by the United Press International. He averaged 22.8 points, 9.9 rebounds and 4.6 assists as a senior on a team that finished 20-5 and reached the quarterfinals of the Ohio large-schools state tournament.

Reid shot 50 percent from the field and 73 percent of his free throws.

He'll have to sit out his first season at Nebraska because he signed a letter-of-intent with Ohio University in November, during the NCAA's early-signing period.

Rekeweg, who also stands 6-7, is a transfer from the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls, Idaho. He averaged 10 points and five rebounds per game last season for a team that finished 35-3 and fourth in the National Junior College Athletic Association tournament in Hutchinson, Kan.

Rekeweg is a native of Auburn, Ind., who spent his first college season at Valparaiso University.

"I signed with Valparaiso early to take some of the recruiting pressure off, but things at school didn't work out for me. It didn't turn out to be the type of program I thought it was," said Rekeweg, who averaged 6.5 points and 2.6 rebounds as a freshman.

Ironically, he was a roommate of

Brett Hughes at Valparaiso. Hughes began his career at Nebraska. His father also coached Rekeweg at Dekalb High School in Waterloo, Ind.

Among the schools that recruited Rekeweg at the College of Southern Idaho were Hardin-Simmons, Colorado and Fresno State. He visited Hardin-Simmons prior to the season.

Rekeweg's statistics at the College of Southern Idaho are misleading, according to Coach Fred Trenkle. "He had a very hard year emotionally and physically," Trenkle said.

Rekeweg suffered a stress fracture in a leg before the season and was sidelined early. "After he got over that, he had about eight games, scoring 20 points in a couple," said Trenkle.

Continued on page 62



Turner Gill — baseball might have been better for his health.



New Husker basketball coach Danny Nee meets the press.

Meet The New Coach

Danny Nee Replaces Iba As Husker Cage Coach

The future of Nebraska basketball is in the hands of an intense, fast-talking Irishman from Brooklyn who played his high-school ball with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, his college hoops for Al Maquire and learned to coach at the side of Digger Phelps.

But Danny Nee has more than a pedigree of association with the game's big names.

In six seasons in his first head coaching job, he turned around an Ohio University basketball program that school officials say had hit rock bottom. Under Nee, the Bobcats became consistent 20-game winners and made trips to two NCAA tournaments, in 1983 and 1985, and to the NIT this season.

Now the 40-year-old Nee is being asked to perform a trickier bit of basketball magic: to take over a program that reached a zenith last season, qualifying for the NCAA Tournament for the first time, but simultaneously was wracked with internal problems and deluged by public criticism.

Moe Iba was the winningest coach in the last six decades of Nebraska basketball, ending his six-year stint as head coach with a 107-70 record, having taken the Huskers to four straight post-season tournaments, three NIT bids followed by the NCAA appearance this year.

Always the subject of criticism even in seasons when he was named Big Eight Coach of the Year, Iba had even more difficulty during his last season. Publicly reprimanded by the university for an illegal pre-season practice last fall, Iba was under siege all season.

Fans criticized Iba for recruiting failures as the top players in Omaha bypassed Lincoln, usually travelling south to Lawrence, Kan. to play for Larry Brown's Jayhawks. They complained, inaccurately, that Iba played a boring, defensive style of basketball.

The taciturn coach did little to change

Brooklyn native with basketball pedigree brings charisma and physical power game from Ohio University.

those perceptions, often appearing critical of his players in public statements.

Internally, the team was plagued by what the players termed a lack of communication between Iba and themselves. Privately, they resented and had little respect for assistant coach Randy Cipriano and felt Iba's system often removed them from their natural styles of play.

It was apparent to those close to the program Iba would be replaced. Athletic Director Bob Devaney began looking for a replacement for Iba before the coach res-

igned following the Huskers' loss to Western Kentucky and it initially appeared Nebraska was having trouble finding a coach.

On March 27, following a previous night meeting with Devaney and two University of Nebraska Regents, Nee was named Nebraska's 24th head basketball coach, asked to perform his turnaround magic again.

Nee doesn't discuss his predecessor's problems directly, dismissing them with a stock answer that "a new era in Nebraska basketball" has now started "and that's all I'm concerned with."

But his statements indicate he's acutely aware of the criticisms of Iba and he knows what fans want to hear.

Asked about recruiting, Nee stressed he would "start off building from Omaha on out." Under Nee, the Huskers will "play a style people come to see. Basketball was made to be played up and down the floor, I think people will enjoy it."

The most direct reference to Iba came when Nee talked about his relationship with the media.

"I'm going to make your job a hell of a lot easier, to have something to write about," Nee told his first press conference at Nebraska. "I'm not going to give you one-word answers. I think you're going to feel comfortable...if you're fair. If you're not fair, you're going to starve."

The effusive Nee appears to be a sportswriter's dream, mixing personality, humor and an obvious determination and enthusiasm into lines quotable enough to lead to the suggestion that if his team couldn't win the Big Eight championship maybe Nee could go to Kansas City and talk the conference out of the trophy.

The new coach also gained the immediate support of the returning Husker players following a meeting shortly after he took the job in which he stressed communication and the fact the game should be fun.

"That's something we have lacked," said guard Brian Carr. "He seems to be what we want. I think they made a good choice. He earned our respect from what he said in that meeting."

Charisma, however, doesn't win basketball games and Nee could easily find himself starting his career at Nebraska by winning fewer games than his predecessor.

The Huskers will return just two starters, Carr and forward Bernard Day and sixth-man Anthony Bailous from this year's 20-7 team. The rest of the squad was little used by Iba and the team lacks an experienced big man.

Knowing he wouldn't be returning to Nebraska, Iba did no recruiting, leaving Nee and his two assistants, Fran Fraschilla, who he brought with him from Ohio and Lynn Mitchem, a former Purdue graduate assistant, with a difficult, if not impossible task — finding uncommitted recruits in less than two weeks.

To augment the high-school recruiting, Nee sent Fraschilla to the national junior-college tournament in Hutchison, Kan. to look at players.

"We have numerous contacts in the Midwest with kids who still haven't signed," Nee said. "Now we're in the process of calling those high school coaches and junior college coaches and just see if anyone would be willing to listen."

Nee is also doing his best to keep current team members academically eligible, instituting a mandatory study hall for team members.

Deak Vance, a seldom-used, but highly talented junior college transfer forward, was academically ineligible during the second semester this year. Vance's size and strength are likely to be crucial to Nebraska's inside game next season.

Once next year's team makeup is settled, Nee will begin instituting his system, which Mid-American Conference observers say is a Big 10 style, physical power game. But Nee said initially he'll have to adjust to his personnel.

"If we have three big guys inside, we'll go inside. If we have four little guys, we'll run up and down the floor like four little rats," Nee said.

Like Iba, Nee has a reputation as a defensive coach, primarily playing the sort of tough man-to-man defense Nebraska fans are accustomed to seeing. Last season, however, personnel forced Nee to move to a zone defense and he said he'll play multiple defenses at Nebraska.

On the sidelines, Nee's likely to cause Husker fans to recall the bench antics of Joe Cipriano as he joins Missouri's Norm Stewart, Oklahoma's Billy Tubbs and



Moe Iba

Winningest Husker Coaches (Five years or more)

Moe Iba, 1981-86

107-70 (.605)

R.G. Clapp, 1903-09

55-38 (.591)

Joe Cipriano, 1963-80

254-196 (.564)

Charles T. Black, 1926-32

51-57 (.472)

Harry C. Good, 1946-54

86-99 (.465)

W.H. Browne, 1932-40

64-87 (.424)

Iowa State's Johnny Orr as the Big Eight Conference's top bench showmen.

"I don't know what you people are used to, but Danny puts on one hell of a show," said sports editor Ray Frye of the *Athens, Ohio Messenger*. "He'll throw his jacket and tell the officials what he thinks. When Danny's jacket flies off, you know he's on his way toward a technical."

Once Nee has a chance to get his system in place, the Ohio observers say the fiery coach will bring good players to Lincoln.

"He's the kind of guy who can lure people. I mean, he got 'em to Athens, Ohio," said sportswriter Tim May of the *Columbus Dispatch*. "Lincoln's a nice place, but you don't think guys from Philadelphia and those places would feel comfortable there. He can recruit real well, especially in Philadelphia, New York and Chicago. He's got a great personality."

Nee's New York connection is obvious and he learned the national recruiting game from Phelps at Notre Dame.

"One of the things I brought to the table was the national recruiting," Nee said. "Chicago and east, we've done very well, in New York, Philadelphia and Ohio. I feel the next couple years, we've paid our dues and planted some seeds that we might be able to reap something in the future from those places. I think kids will go where they think they have an opportunity to play and they trust the coach. We're going to have all those things here at Nebraska."

Nee's also planning some other incentives to draw players to Nebraska. A Christmas tournament is now being planned for 1987 and Nee wants to have his team travel to Hawaii or Alaska during the regular season and to Europe for summer exhibition games.

He's also trying to further upgrade Nebraska's schedule so it is made up entirely of NCAA Division I teams, the stronger the better.

"I think it's very important we start playing an all-Division I schedule as soon as possible," Nee said. "I'm going to be very cognizant of the computer ratings. If you're going to the NCAA, you've got to play some people."

Like all coaches, Nee's setting the team goals as winning 20 games, the conference championship and going to the NCAA tournament. One thing he isn't worrying about is selling his program to the rather fickle Nebraska basketball fans.

"Certain things just happen. I don't think I have to sell anything," Nee said. "The fans in Nebraska love Nebraska football, basketball, baseball. If you put a good product on the floor, they're going to respond positively to you." ♦



Coke[®] is it!



It was a bitter-sweet moment for Chris Spachman. There he was, all 6-foot-5, 250 pounds of him, rumbling down the west sideline at Owen Field in Norman before a national television audience with a fumble he had recovered in mid-air. No. 76 running 76 yards in the final half minute of the annual Nebraska-Oklahoma football classic.

Such last-minute heroics in the battle of the Big Reds usually mean a Big Eight championship. Sometimes a national championship. A trip to the Orange Bowl. National headlines.

And this was a defensive tackle scoring the touchdown. A tall, rangy defensive lineman whose knock in the Nebraska Football Media Guide is that he "lacks great speed." Chris Spachman going 76 yards for a touchdown in the final seconds. Chris Spachman scoring his second touchdown of the season (he ran an intercepted pass back against Illinois).

But it didn't bring a Big Eight title or a

trip to the Orange Bowl. It didn't bring a national championship. It didn't even give the Huskers a victory.

The "classic" had long been over. Oklahoma had a 17-0 lead at halftime and led 27-0 by the time Jim Skow knocked the ball loose from reserve halfback Don Maloney and Spachman grabbed it in mid-air and scored. The 76-yard return meant the NU consecutive game scoring streak was still intact. And it made the trip home a little easier.

But, oh, what a moment it could have been!

On the flip side, how easy it is to imagine Chris Spachman being nowhere near Owen Field on that cold day in Norman, Okla. How easy it is to imagine him back in Kansas City, Mo., watching that game on television after a busy week at work.

Unlike so many of the players on both the Nebraska and Sooner squads, Chris Spachman was not groomed to be a college football player. He did not grow up

dreaming of someday playing in a game as big as that one. He did not dedicate himself in high school to doing whatever was necessary to be big enough, fast enough and strong enough to someday get a scholarship offer from one of the nation's football giants.

In fact, in the summer of 1981 — just a few months before the Huskers would begin a string of three-straight wins over OU and four straight Big Eight championships — Chris Spachman had not played a game of football in his life! And he was not planning on ever doing so.

Then his parents, Robert and Carol Spachman, made a decision that would ultimately change their son's life entirely. They decided to push Chris into football.

"It was encouragement from my parents to get involved in some activities and try to shape my life a little better — get some responsibilities and an understanding of work habits, things like that," said Chris when asked why he began his foot-

Chris Spachman...

Let's Have A Little Respect, Please!

By Wayne Bishop

Spachman (76 on opposite page) will be starting for the third straight year but he has yet to get all-star acclaim.





Spachman can take comfort in the fact that 1985 teammate Jim Skow went from obscurity to All-American in one season.

wanted to play football, also. But when he was in grade school, there was a weight limit. He was too big to play. During the sixth and seventh grades he put the pads on and practiced with the team some. But he was too big to play.

"So I played basketball," he explained simply. "That's the original sport I wanted to get into. Basketball was where I wanted to go, and at the time I wasn't carrying 250 pounds. I thought I'd get a little taller, not wider. So it seemed like the thing to do."

Born and raised in Kansas City, Spachman started high school at Rockhurst — one of the best known high schools in the Midwest when it comes to producing athletes. He played freshman basketball there, but then traveled to Colorado Springs, where he attended a boarding school his sophomore year.

The following year he was back in Kansas City, this time at Bishop Miege High School. With all of the transferring, he was ineligible for any sports the first semester. He went out for basketball the second semester. There were still no thoughts of playing football.

Then came that "encouragement" from his parents.

"I had had pads on before and we started practice pretty early in the fall. So by the time we had played two or three games I was into it the way I should have been," said Chris as he looked back on that first year of football. "I don't think I was ever intimidated because all the other guys out there had been playing a long time. But I just didn't have enough confidence in myself to go out there and relax.

"After the first couple of games, though, I realized I could play. And there was the satisfaction of having some success. It was something new to me, and I enjoyed it. And I liked the physical part of it, too."

Still, Chris Spachman did not suddenly start having dreams of someday being a college football star. Quite the contrary.

"I never thought about playing college football. No way! I thought maybe I'd be going to a junior college or small college in the Kansas City area and working. I never thought I'd be a full-time student. Never. Not after I got out of high school. Scholastically, I wasn't into that part of the growing up process very much."

The season ended and Chris figured he had worn a football helmet for the final time. He got ready for basketball and wondered about the kind of job he might

ball career his final year in high school.

"Those were some of the reasons they pushed me into it. It was more or less their encouragement. I didn't want to do it. They knew I had an interest in basketball, and I think with my understanding of basketball I just shut out football. I really wasn't concerned about other sports. So when it came time to go out for football, and with my size and everything, I guess they figured I might as well go for it. What the heck. And I'd get some benefits from

it, too.

"So they pressured me into it. And it wasn't the easiest thing I ever did. It was quite a change."

Chris would later on get another push from his father that would greatly affect his life. But first a look at his life before football.

Chris Spachman was always a little big for his age. He was tall enough that he naturally gravitated toward basketball. And he was good with the round ball. He



20% Discount Off Your Next Cruise!

That's right! Lincoln Tour & Travel and Sitmar Cruise Lines is proud to offer a 20% discount on a special November 30 sailing, aboard the new Fairsky. Depart Los Angeles for seven days along the Mexican Riviera to such exotic ports as Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan and Cabo San Lucas. Your entertainers for this special cruise will be Helen Reddy and George Kirby.

With your discount, stateroom prices start at \$904.00 per person, including roundtrip air fare!

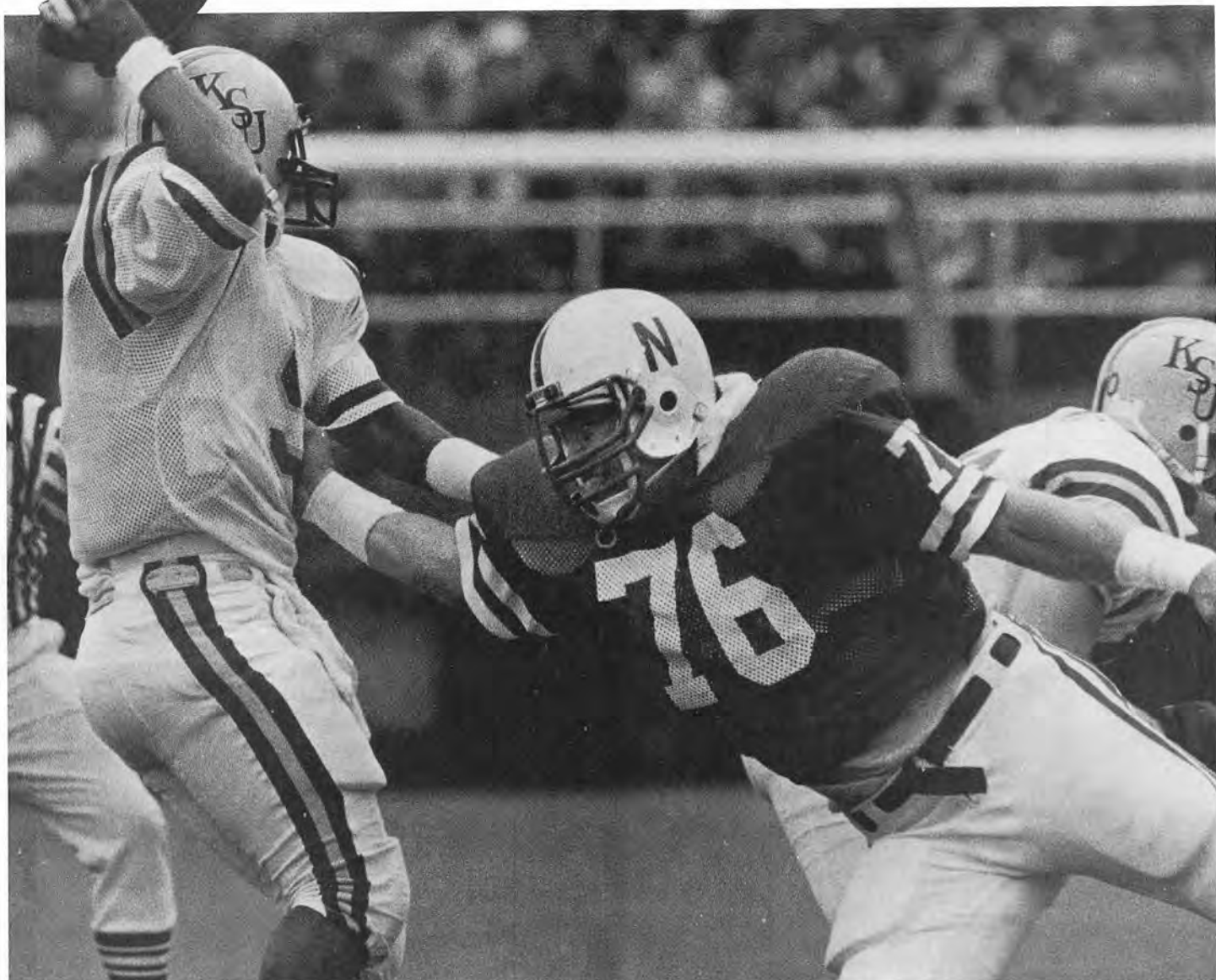
*Space is limited — call our special cruise desk today!!
Let us help turn your cruise dreams into reality!*

Travel with Confidence



**First National Bank Building
13th & M Streets
Lincoln, Nebraska
(402) 474-4111**

**Toll Free (800) 228-4395 Nationwide
Toll Free (800) 742-7334 Nebraska**



Spachman puts the pressure on the passer, but his real forte was returning interceptions for touchdowns.

latch onto after graduation.

Then came a letter from the University of Texas. And then more letters. And then the phone calls from recruiters. And the visits by same. Chris Spachman, the one-year veteran, was a blue chipper.

"It was way after the football season ended before I ever had any idea that I might be going to a major school on a football scholarship," Chris said. "It never even dawned on me until after I had signed and was up here as a freshman what was going on. I just got caught up in everything. It all happened so fast. It was just one of those things where you keep your mouth shut and go along with it and the next thing you know you're in pretty good shape."

Spachman visited Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Nebraska. He could have visited more schools. But, by his own admission, the recruiting process tested his patience. He had never planned that as part of his growing up process.

He was realistic when he came to Nebraska. He knew he would be competing against and with players who had started their football careers when they were six, seven and eight years old. He knew he had a lot to learn before he'd be ready to take the field in a Husker uniform.

Actually, it wasn't all that long.

In the first game of the 1982 season Nebraska hosted Iowa. Chris's parents had both gone to the University of Iowa. They were in the stands at Memorial Stadium

that afternoon.

"I knew his parents had gone to school at Iowa and we were beating them pretty bad," recalled Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride. "So I turned around on the sideline and Chris was standing behind me with his arms folded...I'll never forget it...and I said, 'Are you ready?' And he looked at me like...well, his eyeballs looked like two silver dollars. And he pointed to himself and went like, 'Me?' And I said, 'Yeah, you. Are you ready?'"

"I grabbed him and put him on the field. And on the first play he sacked the quarterback. When he came off the field he was so excited about getting in the game that he told me he didn't even feel his feet on the ground. He just ran in there and tackled

the quarterback. He didn't even know what he was doing."

The rest of the year, however, was more of a learning time with the freshman team. And Spachman had a lot of learning to do. He realized that.

"I don't think he felt like he was up to standards yet when he came here," said McBride, who also coaches the defensive linemen. "He wanted to play more football before he was thrown into the Big Eight Conference. But he wasn't afraid to come to Nebraska right out of high school. He's got a lot of confidence. He's a very quiet young man, but he believes in himself. And he's very aggressive and competitive. He's kind of a loner, but when he puts the pads on, he plays. He plays, and he plays hard."

Spachman was not all that confident after his freshman year, however. He went home that summer, got a job and told his father he thought he'd be better off if he dropped out of college and quit football.

"My freshman year was tough," said Chris as he looked back at that jump from high school to the top of the collegiate football mountain. "There was some doubt in my mind as to whether or not I wanted to continue with football. I talked about it with my dad a little bit. And he said, 'Well, you can quit football now if you want and quit college. But the job you're doing right now is probably the same one you'll have the rest of your life.' So I decided to go back and give it one more shot. And I put it into a new perspective after that."

Still, things did not immediately turn around. He made the trip to the Kickoff Classic in 1983 when Nebraska opened its season by waxing Penn State. And he would have been used at tackle if any injuries had occurred early. They did not, and Chris settled into his redshirt year.

Most players suffer through that year. They may or may not realize they need it. But they suffer all the same. Spachman was no different.

"You want to play. And you want the coaches to expect you to play. You want to be ready to play. But when they're telling you, 'Well, maybe you aren't ready to play,' then you kind of get some doubts in your mind. You lose some faith."

But Chris had time to learn, and he made the most of it. The Huskers were thin on the defensive line in 1984 and he had an opportunity to start. He didn't let that opportunity pass him by.

"Chris picked up things," McBride stated. "The big thing with a lot of these kids is the ability to learn this stuff as a sophomore. He was one of those who did learn. And that was a big, big thing. That extra year (redshirt year) helped him a lot. He could have played some the year before, but this way he ends up being a three-year starter."

Chris led the interior line in tackles that year with 38, 24 of them unassisted. And he led the team in quarterback sacks (seven for 45 yards) and shared the team lead for tackles for losses (12 for 65). That was on a defense which led the nation in fewest yards given up.

But Spachman was pretty much ignored in post-season honors in the Big Eight. He began the 1985 season as a returning starter, but was overshadowed during the year by first-year starter Jim Skow, who earned All-American honors on the strength of his fierce pass rushing assault. Spachman, again having a fine year, made second-team All-Big Eight.

"He's one of those guys... Well, he's basically Mr. Consistency," said McBride. "He's not what you call a flashy player. But he does everything correctly and makes the right decisions. And he's kinda been overshadowed a little by (Danny) Noonan and Skow because he didn't make as many sacks as they did."

"He's just very consistent. The thing Chris needs to improve on is his pass rush techniques. And I think he'll do that this year. The pros are looking at him already."

Spachman has worked hard during the off-season to get bigger and stronger. And he feels he's more motivated now to turn loose and earn those post-season honors that have so far avoided him.

"You go back home and talk to people who support the team and also support you, and they ask you, 'What do you really want to do?' And they watch you week in and week out and give you pointers on how they think you match up with other people around the country. And I've had quite a few people come up to me and say, 'If you want to play like the All-Americans out there, you can do it.' So you start thinking you can play with the best of them."

But Spachman admits the biggest change that's come over him is not in his confidence about what he can do on the football field.

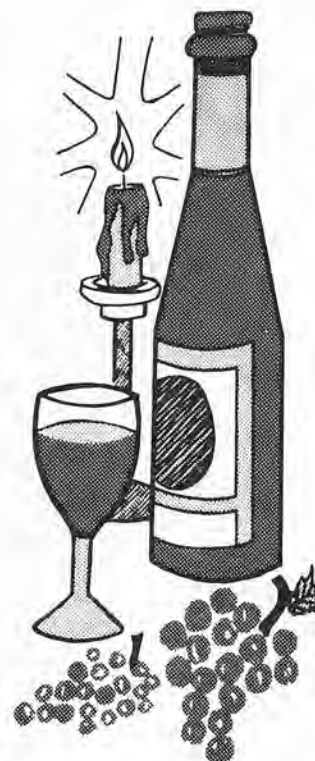
"When I first came to Nebraska, it was football that got me in college and kept me here. Now I've got the opposite view. As you get older, you see how fortunate you've been. I've started two years, and hopefully I'll make it three. I've played in one of the best programs in the country."

"But it's got to come to an end. And I didn't just blow my freshman and sophomore years in the classroom. I'm on schedule to graduate in December. And I'm looking forward to that."

"Football has turned my life around. It's been one of the best things that's happened to me."

Spachman may not score two touchdowns next fall. But thanks to a couple of strong pushes from his parents, he's winning the game of life. ♦

"ONE OF THE
LARGEST
WINE SELECTIONS
IN THE U.S.A."



N STREET LIQUOR

DISCOUNT PRICES • CASE DISCOUNTS
FINE LIQUORS & WINES & BEER
LINCOLN'S HEADQUARTERS FOR KEGS
YOUR COMPLETE PARTY
HEADQUARTERS — WEDDINGS
RECEPTIONS — ETC. — ICE
GLASSES — SNACKS
BARTENDER SERVICE AVAILABLE
Owners — Dick & Susan Stoehr

**"LINCOLN'S LIQUOR
SUPERMARKET"**

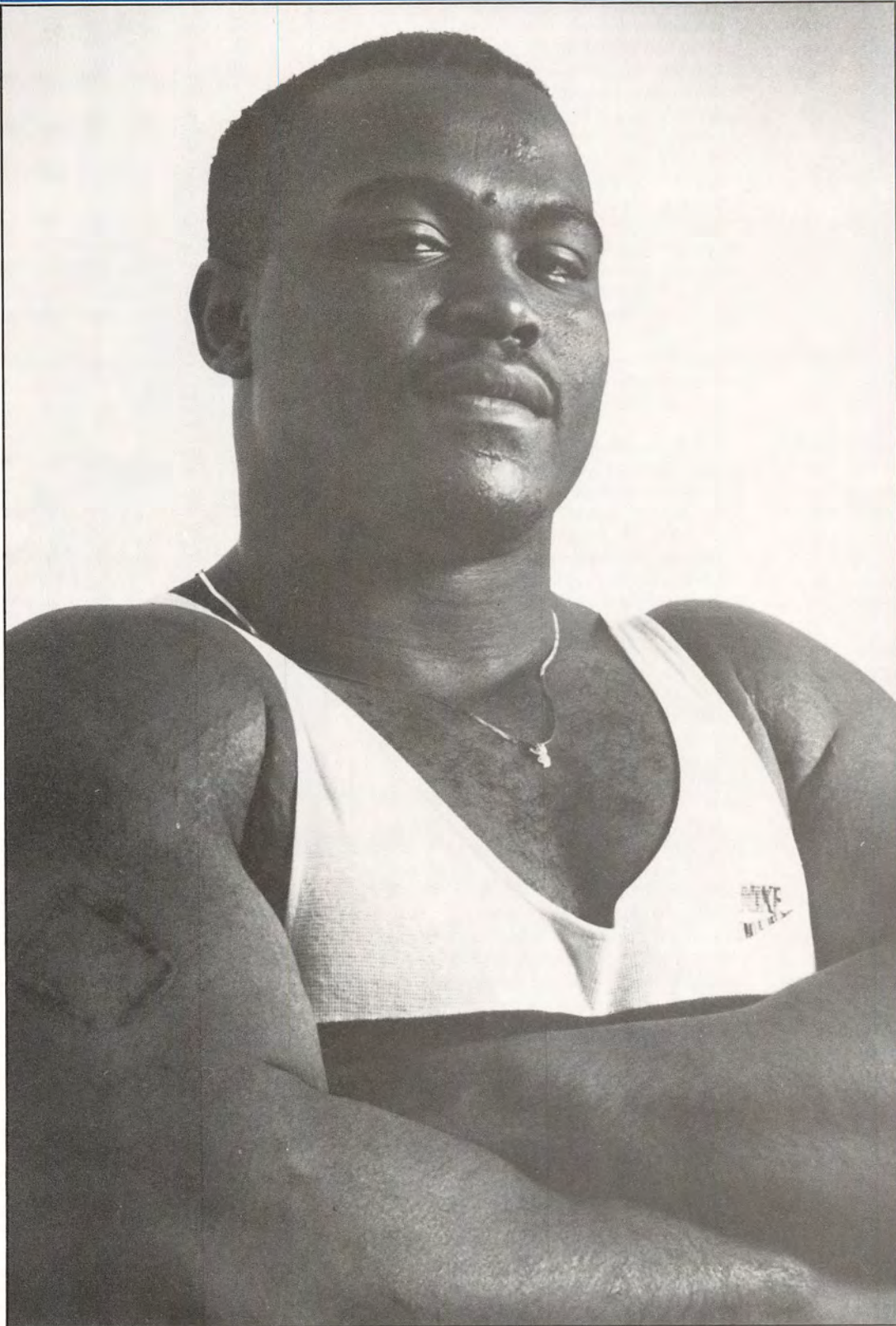
5400 SQ. FT. OF SHOPPING SPACE

477-6077

19th & "N" St.
Plenty Of Off Street Parking
Shopping Carts - 7 A.M. To 1 A.M. Daily

LAWRENCE

***P
E
T
E***



Husker sophomore from Wichita becomes the first NU gridder to top 500 pounds in the bench press.

By Mike Babcock

Lawrence Pete was a sophomore at South High School in Wichita, Kan., when he became interested in lifting weights.

Mark Lamb, a South High football coach, got him started.

Pete hasn't forgotten his first experience in the weight room. He tried to bench press 165 pounds, and "they had to pull it off my chest," he said.

Pete was pinned to the bench by 165 pounds. He was understandably embarrassed. "I guess I weighed about 200 pounds at the time, and everybody started talking about how I couldn't even bench press my own weight," Pete said, laughing at the recollection.

Last February, Pete became the first Nebraska football player ever to bench press 500 pounds. He did it during the post-winter conditioning tests, just five days after undergoing arthroscopic surgery on



Danny Noonan (making tackle) was replaced as the "strongest Husker" by the rookie from Wichita.



his right knee.

His record-setting performance was flawless.

Boyd Epley, Nebraska's strength and conditioning coach, remarked: "It was the best form on a heavy lift that I've ever seen. Most often when you see a record attempt, the athlete has overextended himself, and you see his arms shake or the bar come up crooked. He's really pushing himself to the limit of good form. In this case, however, Lawrence Pete's form was perfect."

Pete had no intention of overextending himself. The only thing he wanted was the record, which belonged to Danny Noonan for all of two days.

Noonan had bench pressed 485 pounds on the first day of testing to break the previous team record of 480 held by, you guessed it, Pete, who stood by and watched as his mark fell.

He wanted to lift that day, "but I was still under the effects of the anesthetic. I don't know if I could have gotten the record then or not. But I felt like I wanted to do it then because I had just witnessed someone take my record away from me," said Pete.

The 6-2, 270-pound middle guard no longer has to be embarrassed about not being able to bench press his weight.

And Pete's not done, by any means.

"The 500, you could say that's just a short-term goal," he said. "I'd say I can go well over 500, maybe 550 or 560."

He's come a long way since he was a sophomore in high school.

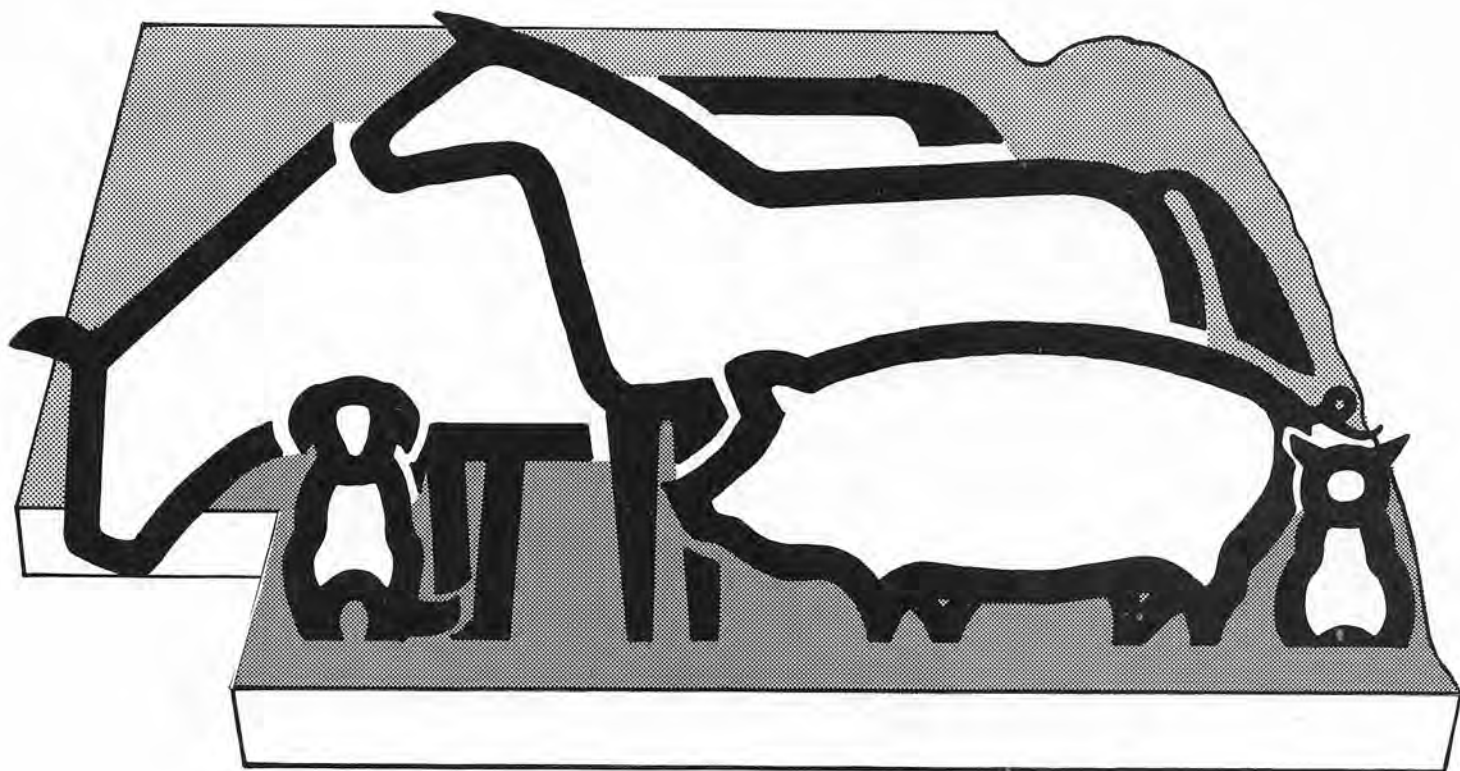
In junior high, Pete was a basketball player. But his interest in football increased in direct proportion to his strength. By the end of his sophomore year, he was benching 315 pounds.

Spotters no longer had to lift 165 pounds off his massive chest.

Pete never had time to become discouraged in his weight-lifting efforts. "I really got into lifting because I saw a lot of gains right away," he said. If he hadn't seen the gains, he would have given up.

At the end of his junior year in high school he could bench press 405 pounds. He benched 425 pounds in competition his senior year, and his unofficial personal best was 450 pounds by then. "My total for the bench, dead and squat was about 1,650," Pete said.

Neil Smith (92) needed some time to get used to his roommate Pete.



From our Nebraska headquarters, Norden Laboratories has been proudly serving the nation's animal health industry since 1919. During this time, we have grown from a small Lincoln company to one of the leading manufacturers of veterinary vaccines and pharmaceuticals in North America. Among innovative products developed at Norden are 'Endurall-R', the nation's largest-selling rabies

vaccine, 'ScourGuard 3', a remarkably effective vaccine for preventing the leading causes of calf scours, and 'PR-Vac', the first federally licensed swine pseudorabies vaccine. These and other fine Norden products are available through your veterinarian. Today, as always, we believe no one is better qualified to ensure your animals' health and productivity.



**NORDEN
LABORATORIES**

Lincoln, Nebraska 68501 U.S.A.

His weight was about 280 pounds. "I was a power-lifter, and I didn't have to worry about my weight. I was only concerned about putting on a lot of bulk."

Pete's weight had topped 290 when he reported to fall camp at Nebraska as a freshman, a fact that didn't amuse Charlie McBride, the Cornhuskers' defensive coordinator and the coach who recruited him. It was at that point his weight started going in the other direction.

Pete, who won the Kansas Class 6A high school shot put title in the spring of his senior year with a 57-foot toss, used his strength to overpower opponents on the football field.

"I wasn't a technician or anything," he said. "I guess I had some finesse, but I didn't have to use it because I was always a lot bigger than most people."

That changed some when he got to Nebraska. "When you move up, it's a different story," said Pete. It wasn't much different, though. "I still feel like I can overpower people if I use my legs and my hands."

His best lift on the hip sled is 925 pounds. Because of his knee problems, he hasn't been tested on that since his freshman year.

Pete's knee problems began in the fourth quarter of the annual Red-White intrasquad game in the spring of his freshman year. The injury was initially believed to be nothing more than a strain, but about two weeks later, Pete underwent arthroscopic surgery to repair a cartilage tear and remove some bone chips from the knee.

The recovery period extended into the fall of his sophomore year, and when Pete finally tried to begin practicing, midway through the season, "it still bothered me," he said.

Less than a month later, he was sidelined again, forced to wear a redshirt he had hoped to avoid. That's been the most frustrating part of his college football career, and "it carried over into my social life and my academic life, too," Pete said.

He rarely went to practice, "although I probably should have," he admits, choosing instead to work on his upper body by lifting in the weight room.

He attended the home games, of course, sitting in the end zone bleachers with the other redshirts but never really getting involved.

Many redshirts imagine themselves playing. "I just watched," said Pete. "I'll wait 'til my time comes."

He thought that time would come much sooner, which it might have if he hadn't suffered the injury.

Pete suited up for every varsity home game his freshman year, during which he tied tackle Neil Smith as the leading tackler on a 4-1 Cornhusker junior varsity team.

Pete and Smith were Mr. Inside and Mr.

*Neil Smith calls
Pete, "the 'Fridge'
on our team.
Lawrence has
one of the biggest
mouths on the
team. If you ever
run up against
him, don't let his
mouth scare
you."*

Outside for the jayvees, each finishing with 36 tackles. Pete, who had a team-high 23 unassisted tackles, used his strength to plug up the middle. Smith, the fastest lineman in Cornhusker history, chased down ball-carriers with his remarkable speed.

Pete and Smith are roommates with similar personalities, according to Pete, who's never been accused of being introverted.

"Neil and I do a lot of things together," Pete said. "I'd say about 75 percent of the things we do are together. As for the other 25 percent, we won't say."

That they share a room now is remarkable considering "Neil and I used to hate each other. We were enemies. I don't know why, but we just didn't get along," Pete said.

According to Smith, they didn't get along because "when I first came here, I thought Lawrence was a bully," said Smith. "There were a lot of bullies in high school, and I thought he was one of those kind of guys. That's one reason."

Another reason involved two-a-day practices during their freshman year. Because of his weight, "Lawrence would get heat exhaustion, and he'd go sit under a tree and drink water while we were practicing. He'd laugh at us, and that made me mad again," Smith said.

The dislike dissipated quickly when they began lining up alongside each other on the junior varsity defense.

"Once we got to playing together, we became just like brothers," said Pete, who roomed with Andy Keeler, another scholarship recruit, during his freshman year.

"Andy and I got along real good," Pete said of Keeler, an offensive guard who figures to play this fall after spending a redshirt season. "Andy's a typical offensive lineman, a 'hog.'"

Pete laughs at the comparison.

Smith smiles good-naturedly when he talks of his friendship with Pete. "He's fun to be around," said Smith, who calls Pete "the 'Fridge' on our team. Lawrence has one of the biggest mouths on the team. Everybody knows Lawrence Pete. If you ever run up on him, don't let his mouth scare you."

Once the ball is snapped, Pete's actions replace his words.

"Even though he's that big and that strong, he pursues the ball well. And that's what we need, pursuit," said Smith, who's certainly no slouch in that category. He runs an electronically-timed :04.67 in the 40-yard dash.

The adjustment to college life wasn't too difficult for Pete. The worst part was being away from home for the first time. Even big guys get the blues. But he never got homesick enough to consider leaving.

The most difficult aspect of college life "is making the right decisions. Should I go to class, should I study or go to the movies? It's all a decision-making pro-

cess," Pete said.

"I'd say it's gotten easier."

Even so, "the decision you think is right may not be what somebody else thinks is right," he said.

Pete is convinced his decision to become a Cornhusker was right.

Surprisingly, he wasn't an All-City football player in Wichita his senior year. One reason was, he played only five games because of a knee injury. Another was, Pete played so many positions during his high school career that voters didn't know which position he played best.

As a high school sophomore, he was a fullback and linebacker. His junior year, he played fullback and noseguard, and as a senior, he played defensive end, defensive guard and even some at slotback. He was a man for all positions. "Basically, I played wherever they wanted me," Pete said.

South needed more players like Pete, and it needed the Pete it had for more than half the season. "I think we finished 3-6," said Pete.

His team's record and his own lack of recognition didn't keep Pete from drawing considerable recruiting attention. In addition to Nebraska, he made official visits to Arkansas, Tennessee, Kansas and Kansas State.

Pete came to Lincoln during the Cornhuskers' preparations for their national championship battle with Miami in the 1984 Orange Bowl, an experience that was bound to impress a young man interested in a football career.

His recruiting host at Nebraska was Jeff Smith, an I-back from Wichita who played a key role in the Cornhuskers' dramatic Orange Bowl rally.

Naturally, Pete was most impressed with Nebraska's strength complex.

After his visit, he told a newspaper reporter: "Nebraska's weight program attracts me. I can't get nothing but stronger in a weight room like that. I hope I never reach a peak."

Pete isn't concerned about the time he's missed because of the knee problems. When the Cornhuskers line up against Florida State for their opener on Sept. 6, it will have been well over a year since he played in a game.

But "I feel like physically I'm ready and mentally I'm sure I'm ready because I know the plays. I just need some repetition, and I'll be able to play right away," said Pete, who was eager to begin practicing in the spring.

The Nebraska trainers held him out of spring drills early on, though, waiting until his knee reached an appropriate level of strength.

A healthy Pete should figure prominently in the Cornhuskers' plans this fall. Going into the spring, "I really don't have an established second-team noseguard," said McBride.

Noonan, Nebraska's first-team middle guard, "may be the best in the country next year," McBride said. "I think Danny's got a chance to be an All-American. We'll have to see."

"But he's that good of a player."

According to McBride, who's understandably biased, Noonan was the best middle guard in the Big Eight last season, better even than Oklahoma's Tony Casillas, the Lombardi Trophy winner.

The 6-3, 275-pound Noonan has the right combination of speed and strength, complementing his 485-pound bench press with :04.88 speed in the 40-yard dash.

In addition, "he uses his hands amazingly well," said McBride. "He did when he came here."

Noonan has achieved success through hard work. "He wants to be good. He works as hard as anybody who's been around here. He reminds me a lot of Rod Horn the way he works in that weight room to get stronger," McBride said.

But even Noonan needs a rest, and that's where Pete could fit in.

Phil Rogers, the only other middle guard with experience, was forced to quit the team because of injury problems, leaving the competition for a job as Noonan's back-up devoid of proven players.

Sean Putnam, a walk-on from O'Neill, began the spring as the No. 2 middle

guard. Redshirt Mark Mendel, a converted offensive lineman, also was given a shot at middle guard in an attempt to shore up the position.

The 6-2, 262-pound Mendel, who's from Plymouth, Minn., was a scholarship recruit in Pete's class. Early in the spring, at least, it appeared he was making a good transition to the middle.

"He's never played nose in his life, but he has the size and the speed," McBride said. Mendel has run a :04.92, electronically timed, 40-yard dash.

"Anything under 5-flat for a lineman is really good," said McBride.

Pete's best 40 is :05.05, certainly acceptable speed for someone with his size and strength.

Things appear to be working out for Pete, who can finally move without fear of his knee locking up.

He's got a jersey number picked out, No. 96. "I always wanted a 90 number, but we didn't have them in high school," he said. "I wanted No. 99, but my roommate (Smith) has that one."

Pete's anxious to rejoin his roommate, so that Mr. Outside and Mr. Inside can pick up where they left off.

In Pete's case, "lift" might be a better description than pick up. He's the strongest Cornhusker football player in history, and he's getting stronger. Now he'd like to put that strength to use. ♦

TOUCHDOWN CLUB of NEBRASKA

Boosting The Huskers For 25 Great Years

Nebraska's Largest Donor Group
Salutes The Cornhuskers
and
Invites Your Membership

Paul Schorr III
Lincoln
President



Dr. Kirk Lewis, M.D.
Omaha
Vice President

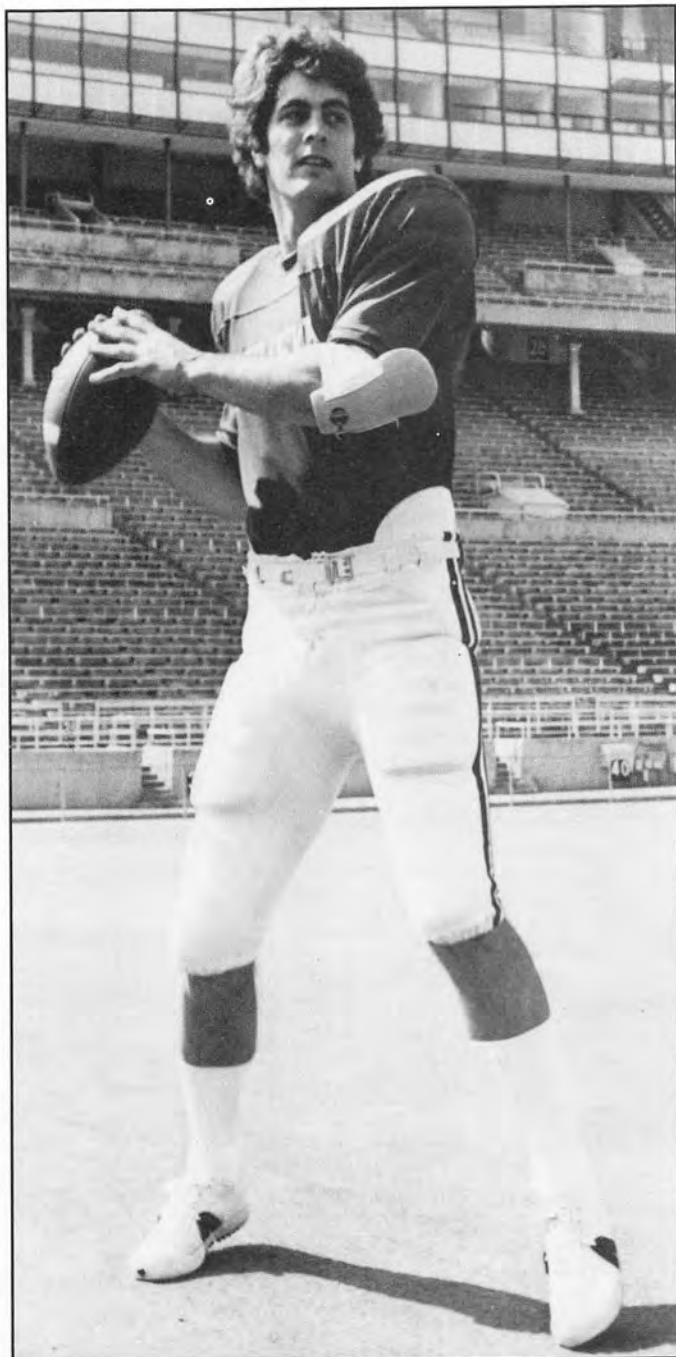
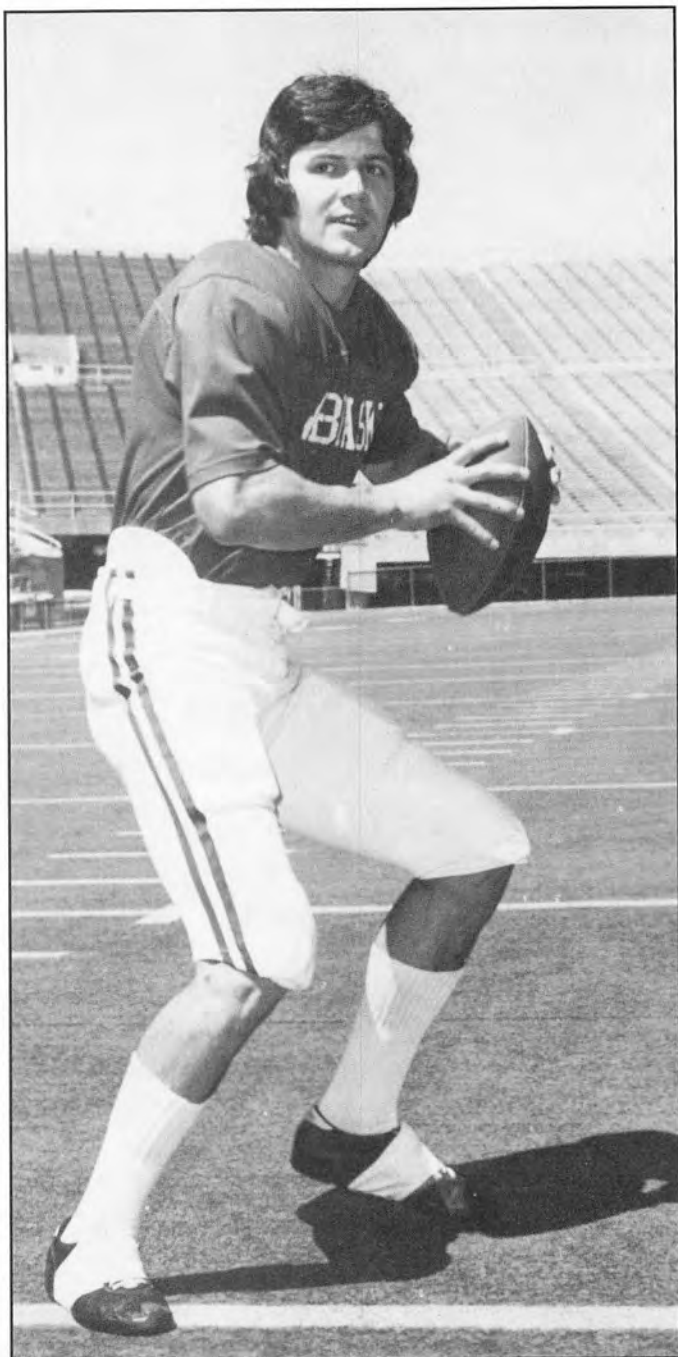
Lou Roper
Lincoln
Treasurer



Hugh Hunt
Blair
Secretary

Contact Don Bryant 116 South Stadium, University
of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588 (472-2263) for information.

No Passing Fancy



Tom Osborne couldn't afford to pass up the opportunity.

This spring, the Nebraska football team has concentrated on its passing attack. Looking back at the 1985 season, "probably the one figure that didn't measure up was efficiency in the passing game," said Osborne. "We completed only around 40 percent of our passes and had a very much higher interception ratio than I'd like to see."

That's why, prior to the start of spring drills, Osborne said: "The No. 1 improvement I'd like to see is in the passing game."

Osborne's concern is based on a season in which the Cornhuskers completed only 38.2 percent of their passes, the worst percentage since 1960, when Bill Jennings'

next-to-last team completed only 24 of 72 passes (32.4 percent). In 1960, Nebraska passers threw for one touchdown, and they were intercepted eight times.

Their efficiency matched their completion percentage.

In 1961, the Cornhuskers completed 54 of 140 passes (38.6 percent), numbers nearly identical to those in 1985, when Nebraska's final regular-season statistics showed 55 completions in 144 attempts for 1,080 yards. To compound the problem, the Cornhuskers' interceptions (11) were nearly double their touchdown passes (6).

It's little wonder Osborne was concerned.

Nebraska's passing problems were underscored in its 27-23 loss to Michigan in the Sunkist Fiesta Bowl. The Cornhuskers

threw 15 passes, of which only six were complete for 66 yards and one touchdown.

The inability to pass efficiently didn't seem to inhibit Nebraska's offense, of course. The Cornhuskers finished the regular season ranked second in the nation in total offense, averaging 472.5 yards per game. Though they ranked 99th out of 105 in passing offense, they more than offset it by leading the nation in rushing offense.

"We may be just as apt to run the ball on third-and-seven, and may be just as apt to make a first down as we are to throw for it," Osborne said during the season. "Our objective is to get the ball from point A to point B as quickly and efficiently as we can."

And that can be done on the ground as well as in the air.

Nebraska has a rich tradition in throwing the football, but Tom Osborne knows passing shortcomings of 1985 need to be eliminated this fall.

Dave Humm (far left) tops NU's career passing list, but Vince Ferragamo made the most of his two years at the helm.

Nebraska's Top 20 Passers (since 1950)

Player	Att.	Com.	Pct.	Int.	Yds.	TD
Dave Humm	637	353	.554	36	5,035	41
Jerry Tagge	581	348	.598	19	4,704	32
Turner Gill	428	231	.540	11	3,317	34
Vince Ferragamo	389	224	.575	13	3,224	32
Bob Churchich	408	22	.539	23	2,935	19
Tom Sorley	256	148	.558	13	2,230	15
Jeff Quinn	254	147	.578	11	2,005	18
Frank Patrick	300	143	.477	18	1,860	8
Dennis Claridge	307	129	.420	14	1,760	10
John Bordogna	271	113	.417	20	1,618	6
Van Brownson	237	128	.540	9	1,455	12
Fred Duda	202	84	.416	16	1,161	8
Travis Turner	130	59	.454	6	959	7
Ernie Sigler	147	74	.503	6	923	5
Craig Sundberg	98	63	.693	6	920	6
Tim Hager	106	56	.528	4	865	7
Fran Nagle	95	46	.484	6	706	9
Randy Garcia	114	45	.394	5	680	3
Steve Runty	73	41	.561	9	649	9
Don Erway	100	42	.420	6	648	5

Looking To The Air

McCathorn Clayton and Huskers Want To Pass '86 Test





"You do need a passing game, but if you're averaging six or seven yards per run, it isn't quite as critical," said Osborne.

Still, the numbers don't add up the way he would have liked.

Under Osborne, Nebraska has built a reputation as a running team. Last season was the fourth time his Cornhuskers have led the nation in rushing offense. They also ranked No. 1 in 1980, 1982 and 1983.

In two of the last three seasons, a Nebraska I-back has led the Big Eight in rushing — Heisman Trophy winner Mike Rozier was the nation's leading rusher in 1983; Doug DuBose led the conference in 1984.

But even during those seasons, the Cornhuskers had more efficient passing

attacks. In fact, with Turner Gill at quarterback in 1983, Nebraska unleashed a devastating passing attack to complement the running of Rozier. The 1983 Cornhuskers completed 107 of 192 passes (55.7 percent) for 1,740 yards and 18 touchdowns.

They were intercepted only six times.

In 1984, the numbers were considerably less impressive. But Nebraska passers were able to complete 56.3 percent, and their touchdown strikes through the air (8) all but counterbalanced their interceptions (9).

Osborne's teams have never been one-dimensional on offense. Prior to 1985, his Cornhuskers had completed less than 50 percent of their passes in only two seasons, 1981 (48.6) and 1977 (47.8). And in 1981,

Nebraska's passing efficiency was reasonably good despite the percentage — 1,177 yards, 14 touchdowns, 11 interceptions.

The passing problems in 1985 weren't the result of neglect.

"We still spend the same amount of time (in practice) throwing the ball as we did when we had (Vince) Ferragamo and (David) Humm. Some people, I think, have forgotten. They think we don't know how to throw the ball, that we never did know," Osborne said.

But the Cornhuskers' record book includes the names of outstanding passers, prominent among them Gill, Ferragamo and Humm, all of whom played at least part of their careers with Osborne as head coach.

Osborne is well-schooled in the passing game, having been a quarterback at Hastings College and a flanker for three years with the National Football League's Washington Redskins and San Francisco 49ers.

As an assistant under Bob Devaney, Osborne coached the receivers and helped mastermind the offense that produced back-to-back national championships in 1970 and 1971.

A check of the record book shows that Nebraska had a balanced attack in those seasons. The Cornhuskers' ratio of rushing yards to passing yards was 55-to-45 in 1970 and 59-to-41 in 1971.

Jerry Tagge did most of the passing during those two seasons.

In 1971, when Nebraska went 13-0, Tagge completed 154 of 258 passes for 2,178 yards and 17 touchdowns. He was intercepted only four times, the lowest interception frequency (1.6 percent) in school history.

For his career, Tagge completed nearly 60 percent of his passes (.598) for 4,704 yards and 32 touchdowns.

He's second only to Humm on Nebraska's career passing list.

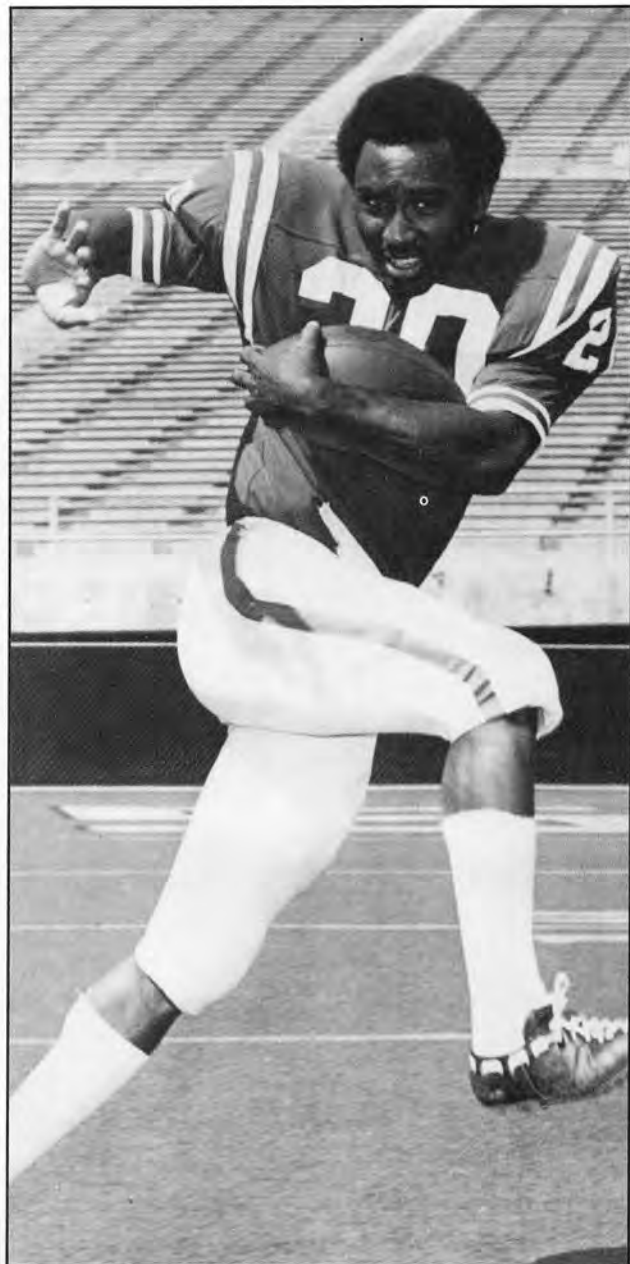
Humm, the smooth left-hander from Las Vegas, passed for 5,035 yards and 41 touchdowns during his career. As a sophomore, he directed the most pass-oriented team in Cornhusker history.

Nearly 50 percent (49.7) of Nebraska's total yardage came by the pass in 1972. The Cornhuskers finished the regular season ranked eighth in the nation in passing offense with 2,431 yards, an average of 221 yards per game.

That's the only time in history that Nebraska has finished in the NCAA's Top 20

Von Sheppard had an amazing average per catch of more than 31 yards in 1985. He should be a boost to the passing game again in 1986.





passing statistics.

Humm passed for a school-record 2,074 of those yards during the regular season, 2,259 including a 40-6 Orange Bowl victory over Notre Dame.

Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Rodgers set school records for receptions (55) and receiving yards (942) in 1972.

Throwing the ball was hardly a passing fancy that season. Rather, the Cornhuskers did some fancy passing.

Rodgers holds most of Nebraska's pass receiving records. No story on Cornhusker passing would be complete without mentioning his statistics. He set career records for catches (143), receiving yards (2,474) and touchdown receptions (26).

Though Humm didn't quite reach his 1972 passing totals as a junior or senior, he led the Big Eight in passing in 1974,

throwing for an average of 130.5 yards per game. He completed 106 of 187 for 1,451 yards and 12 TDs. He also threw 12 interceptions.

In a 56-0 victory over Kansas, Humm set a school record by completing 23 of 27 passes (.852).

Humm also established the Nebraska standard for passing yards in a game, throwing for 297 in a 20-16 victory over Wisconsin in 1973.

Cornhusker quarterbacks have led the Big Eight in passing five times, beginning with Bob Churchich in 1964. Churchich's conference-leading totals were 102 attempts, 54 completions and 893 passing yards, evidence of how offenses have evolved over the years.

Frank Patrick led the Big Eight in passing in 1967 and ranked 12th nationally,

Bob Churchich (left) was Nebraska's first passing leader in the Big Eight, while Johnny Rodgers holds most of the school receiving records.

completing 116 of 233 for 1,449 yards.

Tagge led conference passers in 1971, Humm led them in 1974, and Ferragamo finished as the Big Eight's top passer in 1976. He completed 145 of 254 passes for 2,071 yards and 20 touchdowns to rank 13th in the nation in passing.

Ferragamo is No. 4 on Nebraska's career passing list, but his total was achieved in only two seasons. His 20 touchdown passes during the 1976 regular season are a school record.

He threw for four touchdowns in a



Turner Gill never led the Big Eight in passing but he combined aerial and ground skills well enough to take NU to three league titles.

one point to another, and "we're mainly concerned with efficiency," Osborne said. "If we throw the ball 50 times or run it 60 times, let's make sure it's efficient."

In 1985, the Cornhuskers definitely weren't efficient throwing the ball, a fact which was painfully obvious just two games into the season.

In the 17-13, opening-game loss to Florida State, Nebraska passers completed three of 14 for 40 yards. They were only slightly more productive the next week, completing three of 10 for 110 yards and one touchdown, a nine-yarder from Travis Turner to Robb Schnitzler.

Osborne summed up the situation after the Illinois game. "The passing game is normally more efficient," he said. "We've completed only 25 percent of the passes we've gotten in the air; we've been sacked four times, and we've had a couple of interceptions."

Things got markedly better before they got worse. During a three-game stretch in which the Cornhuskers defeated Oregon (63-0), New Mexico (38-7) and Oklahoma State (34-24), their passers completed 24-of-43 (55.8 percent) without an interception, for 440 yards and two touchdowns.

McCathorn Clayton had the most productive passing game of the season against Oklahoma State, completing eight of 16 for 161 yards and a 38-yard scoring strike to Schnitzler.

But from that game on, Nebraska's passing attack declined.

The Cornhuskers passed for more than 100 yards only twice in the final seven games, including the Fiesta Bowl.

In a 56-6 victory over Kansas, Nebraska completed four of seven passes for 141 yards and two touchdowns, both to wingback Von Sheppard. The first was a 35-yarder from Clayton; the second an 82-yarder from Turner.

Those two touchdown passes represented one-third of the Cornhuskers' regular-season total.

Lack of success can lead to a hesitancy to throw, according to Osborne. "I don't know if you go out and practice during the game," he said in answer to a question at mid-season. "When I'm standing there with those headphones on, I'm trying to figure out how to get first downs and how to get the ball in the end zone."

"I don't feel very much like saying, 'Well, here we are three out of 10, so let's throw it 10 more times and we'll be six out of 20.' As the game goes along and we've thrown it 10 times and hit eight, you're a

game twice as a senior, something only two other Cornhuskers have done. Humm threw four touchdown passes against Kansas in 1972, and Gill made his starting debut by throwing for four touchdowns in a 59-0 victory over Colorado.

Gill never led the conference in passing, but he was the ideal quarterback for Osborne's system. Based on his ratio of touchdown passes to interceptions (3-to-1), he was the most efficient passer in Nebraska history.

During one stretch which covered two seasons, Gill attempted 125 consecutive passes without being intercepted.

His career passing totals were 428 attempts, 231 completions, 3,317 yards, 34 touchdowns, 11 interceptions.

Unlike Humm and Ferragamo, Gill wasn't a classic dropback passer. Nebraska's offense has evolved to the point that "we don't throw a whole lot of pocket passes, where we're going to drop back seven or eight yards, stay in one spot and either unload the ball or get sacked," said Osborne.

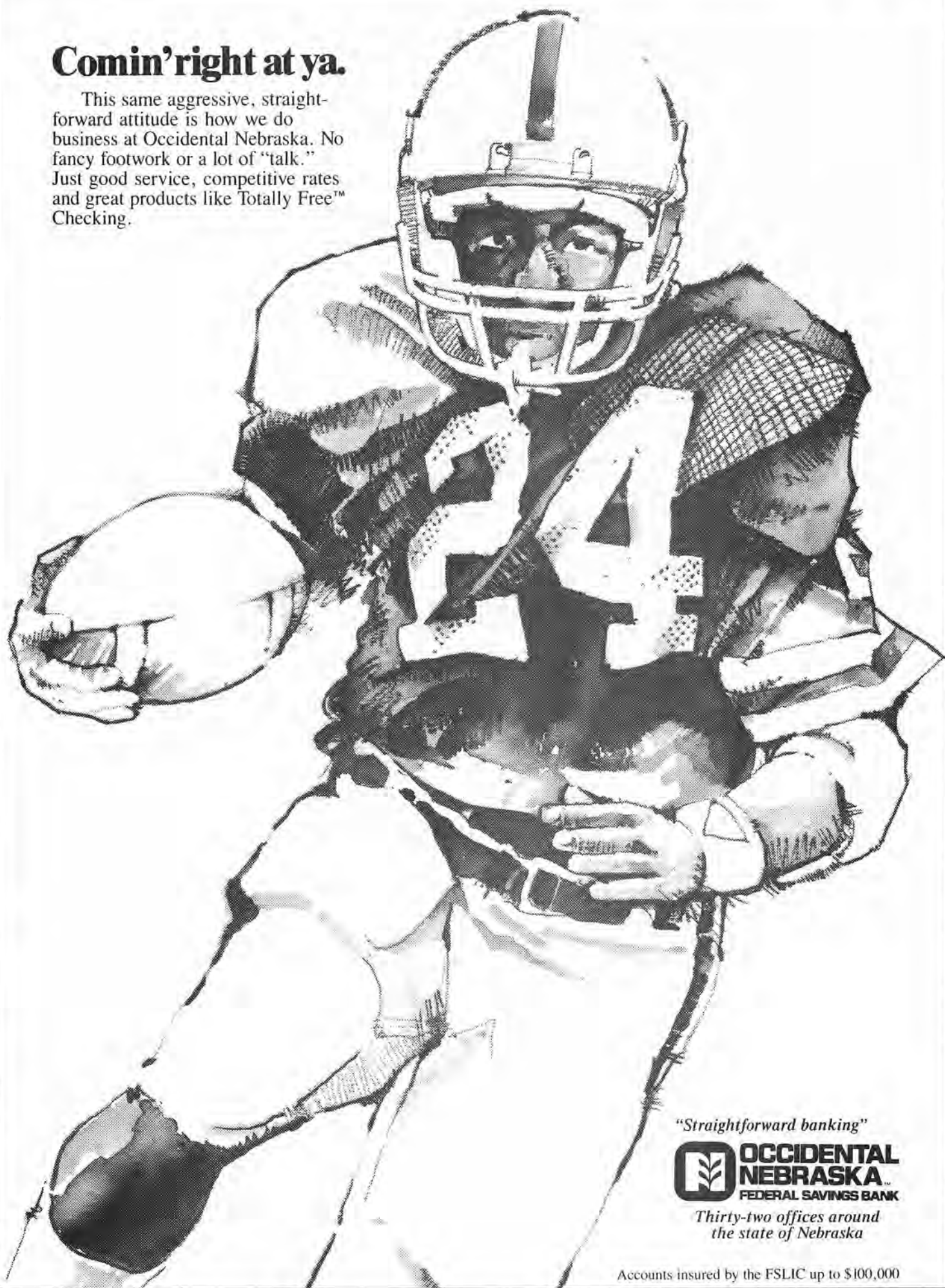
"We have a lot of sprint-out passes, where the quarterback has the option to either run or throw. As a matter of fact, we even have some passes where we can run an option off a pass play."

With that philosophy, passes that are called in the huddle often become running plays, a fact which may be incorrectly interpreted as an unwillingness or inability to throw.

Again, the object is getting the ball from

Comin' right at ya.

This same aggressive, straight-forward attitude is how we do business at Occidental Nebraska. No fancy footwork or a lot of "talk." Just good service, competitive rates and great products like Totally Free™ Checking.



"Straightforward banking"



Thirty-two offices around
the state of Nebraska

Accounts insured by the FSLIC up to \$100,000



Jerry Tagge led the Big Eight in passing in 1971 and led NU to two national titles.

little more apt to call a pass. The other thing that can happen is, if you're not running the ball well, you have to pass."

That was rarely a problem. But when it was, in the Oklahoma game for example, the Huskers didn't have an efficient passing attack on which to rely.

The Sooners, who limited Nebraska to a season-low 161 rushing yards, intercepted three of the Cornhuskers' 15 passes. Four were complete for a total of 63 yards.

Nebraska has the necessary elements for an improved passing attack in 1986.

Spring practice began with Clayton, Steve Taylor and Clete Blakeman as the top competitors at quarterback.

Clayton is coming off "a reasonably good year and has some experience," said Osborne. "But his throwing definitely

needs to improve."

Clayton completed only 28-of-78 passes (35.9 percent) for 602 yards and three touchdowns. He was intercepted seven times.

Taylor and Blakeman are both better passers than Clayton, though neither has thrown a significant number of passes in varsity competition.

Taylor completed three of six for 38 yards last fall. "Steve played well when we played him, but he played in optimal situations," Osborne said.

"Some people would say, 'Well, putting a guy in when we're behind puts a lot of pressure on him.' But actually, there's a lot less pressure when you come in the fourth quarter, whether you're ahead or behind substantially than when you start out a

game or come in a game that's tied."

The Cornhuskers' top two split ends return, Schnitzler and Rod Smith, and Jason Gamble, who missed last season because of a knee injury and grade problems, is back.

Gamble "seems to have made some progress, academically, and we hope he'll continue to improve. If he can enter the picture there, it might give us a little bit of breakaway speed that we haven't had in great abundance."

Schnitzler led Nebraska in receiving last fall, catching 16 passes for 382 yards and two touchdowns. Smith caught eight passes for 121 yards.

Sheppard was No. 2 behind Schnitzler, finishing with nine catches for 281 yards and the two touchdowns against Kansas. I-back Doug DuBose finished fourth in receiving, catching five passes for 65 yards.

Sheppard will be backed up at wingback by a group that includes Dana Brinson, Pernell Gatson, who missed last season with a knee injury, Ray Nelson and Richard Bell, who could redshirt.

Tight end Tom Banderas caught only two passes last season, but both of them went for touchdowns. He's back, as is Todd Millikan, a converted linebacker.

Willie Griffin, an academic redshirt last fall, is eligible again, and "we're hoping he can make a contribution," said Osborne. "The situation (at tight end) is maybe a little more solid now than it was going into last fall."

Nebraska's quarterbacks should have time to throw given an offensive line built around three returning starters, tackle Tom Welter and guards John McCormick and Stan Parker.

The line "is probably a little better off than it normally is at this time of year," Osborne said just prior to the beginning of spring drills.

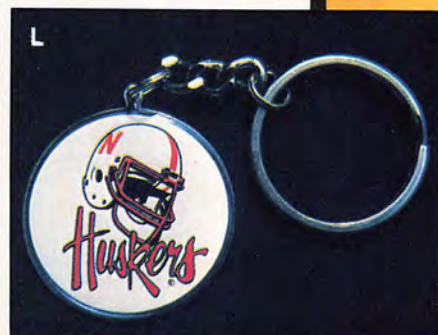
Osborne is hoping last year's passing problems won't continue in 1986.

"Usually, we've had a very efficient passing game in terms of completion percentage, up around 55 or 60 percent, low interceptions and a high percentage of touchdowns. So we're going to try to get back to those kinds of numbers if we can," he said.

"I'm not predicting how much we're going to throw. We may throw more or we may throw the same. It depends so much on how effectively we're running and moving the ball and who we're playing. But the one thing I do know is, we need to be more efficient at it." ♦

Support *the* Huskers!

Proceeds Go Back To Big Red Football School



Call for prices on
BULK ORDERS
for stores and
organizations!

Order Your Big Red Football Clothing

- (A) Poplin Jacket unlined. Embroidered. S-XXL \$32.00
 (B) Racing Jacket unlined. Embroidered. S-XXL \$40.00
 (C) Satin Jacket lined. Embroidered. S-XXL \$45.00
 (D) Shorts 100% polyester. Red only. S-XL \$ 8.00
 (E) T-Shirt 50-50. Helmet design w/red trim. S-XL \$ 6.00
 (F) Crew Neck Sweatshirts. 50-50 blend, white or red. S-XL... \$15.00
 (G) Golf Cap with helmet design. Red only. Adjustable. \$10.00
 (H) Golf Cap with Nebraska design. White only. Adjustable.... \$10.00
 (I) T-Shirt 75-25 blend. White or red (embr.). S-XL \$22.00
 (J) V-neck Sweaters 50-50 blend. White or red (embr.). S- XL \$24.00
 (K) Jerseys 100% nylon (red only). Sizes run larger. S-XL.... \$26.00
 \$4.00 for shoulder #'s. Pick own number.
 (L) Key Chain. Helmet design. Split ring security \$ 4.00

Mail Order To: T-D Enterprise
P.O. Box 81883
Lincoln, NE 68501
(402) 483-5719

QUAN.	SIZE	ITEM	TOTAL
FREIGHT—\$2 for first item for each additional item. \$1 for key chains.			
NEBRASKA RESIDENCE TAX only Do not tax freight.			
List Additional items and additional instructions on a separate sheet.			TOTAL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

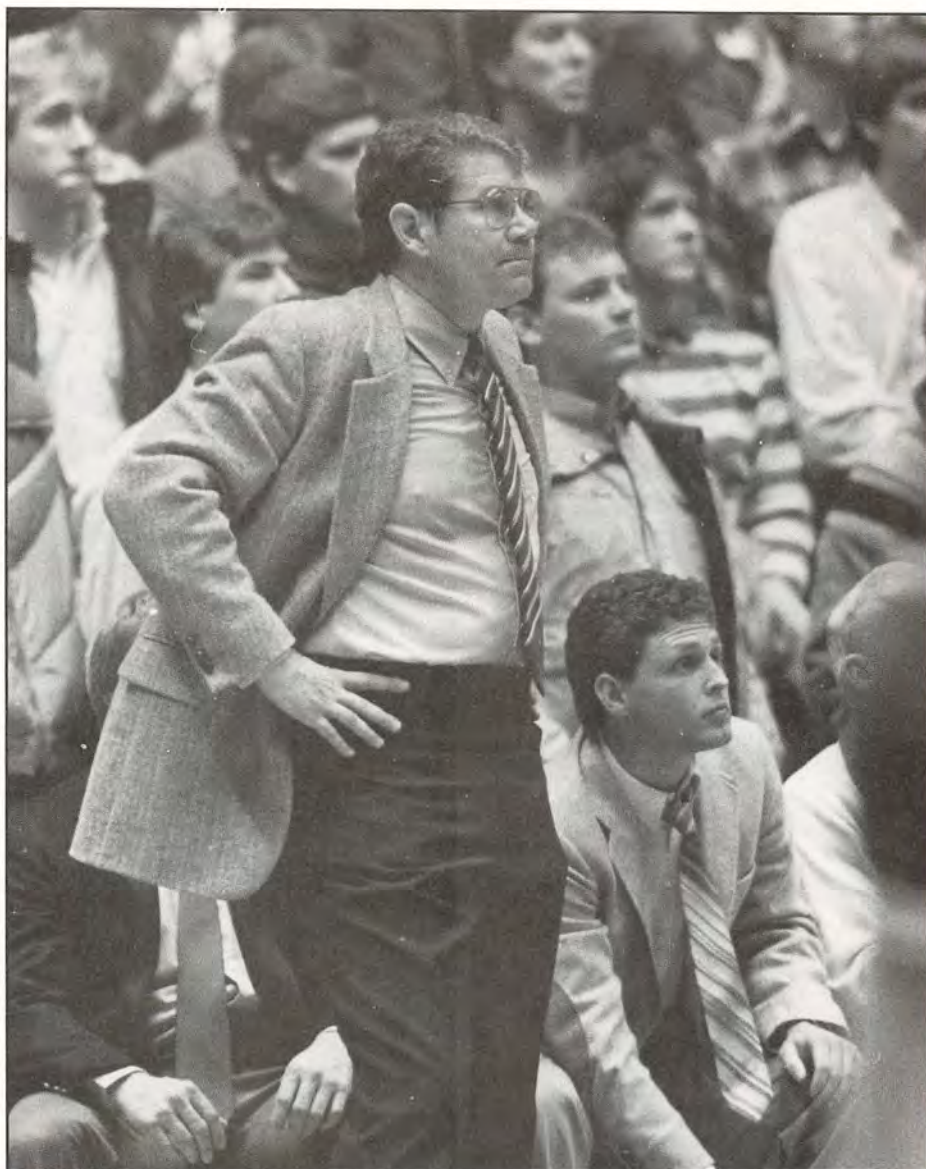
In case we have a question on your order Phone (____) _____

Check or money orders only. Made out to T-D Enterprise, Inc. T-D Enterprise will not be responsible for payments made to anyone other than T-D Enterprise.

Sorry, no returns or exchanges accepted without T-D Enterprise authorization. All defects must be filled within 14 days of shipment.

HURRY!

3-4 weeks delivery. (UPS for Delivery)



Huskers Make First NCAA Trip

The Moe Iba Era of Nebraska basketball officially ended in Charlotte, N.C., at the ramshackle Charlotte Coliseum, minutes after the Cornhuskers had lost to Western Kentucky, 67-59, in the opening round of the NCAA Southeast Regional tournament.

As he walked off the court to the locker-room, Iba handed his resignation to Don Bryant, Nebraska's assistant athletic director.

During the post-game press conference, in response to a question regarding his future, Iba announced he was resigning to pursue another college coaching job.

His six-year career as Nebraska's head coach was over. "That's all I'm going to say," Iba said with a finality that indicated he had given the subject considerable thought.

Later, Cornhusker Brian Carr fought back tears as he responded to questions about Iba's resignation. "It's been such a long season. That's why I'm so emo-

tional," said the junior from Muncie, Ind.

Carr's tears weren't only of sadness, however. "I don't want all this stuff, his (Iba's) resignation, to overshadow what we've done this year," he said.

"I'm so proud of this ball club and the seniors. It's hard to explain, but I'm really happy."

What Carr and his teammates did was overcome the loss of Dave Hoppen, a pre-season All-American, to earn an NCAA tournament bid, one of a record five accorded to the Big Eight.

The NCAA appearance was the Cornhuskers' first, officially, and second, in fact.

Following the 1948-49 season, Coach Harry Good's team lost an NCAA district playoff game to Oklahoma A&M in Kansas City, Mo., 52-35. The NCAA tournament included only eight teams then, and district playoff games weren't officially a part of it.

Carr's team would have had to advance

to the Southeast Regional semifinals in Atlanta to come as close to the NCAA championship as Nebraska did in 1949.

But it's a moot point. Both teams are deserving of respect, regardless of what the NCAA record book shows.

For the Cornhuskers, 1985-86 was really two seasons — one with Hoppen, the other without him.

The senior out of Omaha Benson High School was the basis for pre-season optimism at Nebraska. With Hoppen leading the way, the Cornhuskers opened by winning six of their first seven and 10 of their first 13 games.

Included in that stretch were a 71-52 victory over Creighton, Nebraska's sixth in a row in the series, and victories over National Invitation Tournament finalists Wyoming and Ohio State. The Cornhuskers beat the Cowboys in Laramie, 64-53, and rebounded from a 78-61 loss to Alabama in the opening round of the Sun Bowl Classic at El Paso, Texas, to defeat

Husker Basketball 1985-86 (19-11)

TEAM	NU	OPP
Wisconsin-Stout	71	53
Southern Illinois	85	50
at Wyoming	64	53
California-Irvine	80	87
Creighton	71	52
at Washington State	79	72
at Montana State	76	59
Georgia	63	67
Arizona State	80	67
Sun Bowl Classic in El Paso, Texas		
Alabama	61	78
Ohio State	69	66
Evansville	77	70
Northeast Missouri State	99	56
Kansas	70	81
Missouri	67	68
at Oklahoma State	62	61
Iowa State	75	58
at Oklahoma	60	87
at Colorado	77	60
Kansas State	54	64
at Missouri	75	66
Oklahoma State	68	52
at Kansas	61	79
Oklahoma	66	64
at Iowa State	73	81
Colorado	79	72
at Kansas State	64	60
Big Eight Tournament in Kansas City		
Oklahoma State	82	75
Iowa State	58	75
NCAA Southeast Regional in Charlotte, N.C.		
Western Kentucky	59	67

Home attendance: 146,117 (9,741)



Moe Iba (opposite page) resigned after a landmark season, but guard Brian Carr (above) will be hoping for even bigger things ahead.

NIT champion Ohio State, 69-66.

Among the Husker heroes in that game was Deak Vance, a transfer from Dodge City, Kan., Junior College who became ineligible at the semester break. Down the stretch, without Hoppen, the 6-foot-7 Vance could have provided some of the size Nebraska lacked.

The Cornhuskers completed their non-conference schedule with a 10-3 record, including four victories in five games on the road. With three of their first four Big Eight games at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, the optimism grew.

The problem was, the conference opener was against Kansas, which left Lincoln with an 81-70 victory.

Three days later, Missouri beat Nebraska in the Sports Center, 68-67, when Lynn Hardy hit a jump shot at the buzzer to give the Tigers their only lead of the game.

The Cornhuskers went on the road for the first time in the conference, faced with

the prospect of going 0-3, something which almost happened.

Nebraska, which shot 38 percent from the field, watched as Oklahoma State's Melvin Gilliam hit a 15-foot jumper to give the Cowboys a 61-60 lead with only three seconds remaining in the game.

But a desperation, 25-foot shot by Anthony Bailous at the buzzer gave the Cornhuskers a 62-61 victory.

Bailous was a pleasant surprise in his first season at Nebraska.

The transfer from Central Arizona Junior College wasn't even included in the pre-season prospectus. He came to Nebraska intending to compete in track and field. Bailous has world-class potential as a long jumper, with a wind-aided best of 27-7.

Until Demetrious Buchanan was ruled academically ineligible just before the beginning of fall classes, Iba didn't have a scholarship for Bailous, who would have had to sit out the year.

By season's end, Bailous had become Nebraska's sixth man.

After his jump shot enabled the Cornhuskers to escape Stillwater with their first Big Eight victory, they played host to Iowa State. The Cyclones left Lincoln with a 75-58 loss, described by Coach Johnny Orr as one of the most frustrating in his career.

Emotions ran high in the game, from which Nebraska's Chris Logan and Iowa State's Jeff Grayer were ejected for fighting. For the second of three games in a row, Hoppen led the Cornhuskers in both scoring and rebounding.

Even though he scored 28 points and grabbed 11 rebounds the next game, Nebraska shot 38 percent and fell to Oklahoma 87-60, the Cornhuskers' worst loss since 1975, when they fell to Kansas in Lawrence, 72-44.

The loss to the Sooners began a three-game stretch in which Nebraska reached rock bottom. Though the Cornhuskers regrouped to beat hapless Colorado, 77-60, in Boulder in their next game, they lost Hoppen for the season.

Hoppen's injury, a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee, occurred with 7:28 remaining in the first half of a regionally televised game as he moved to the baseline to defend against Randy Downs.

"I just twisted it," Hoppen said. "I planted and then turned."

Such injuries are almost impossible to prevent. "You can't brace for it," said Dr. Pat Clare, an orthopedic surgeon and one of Nebraska's team physicians. "This thing could happen just walking and turning. I think Dave demonstrated that rather classically."

Hoppen returned for the second half, but 1:10 into it, he attempted to push off under the basket, the knee gave way and he crumbled to the floor.

His college career was over.

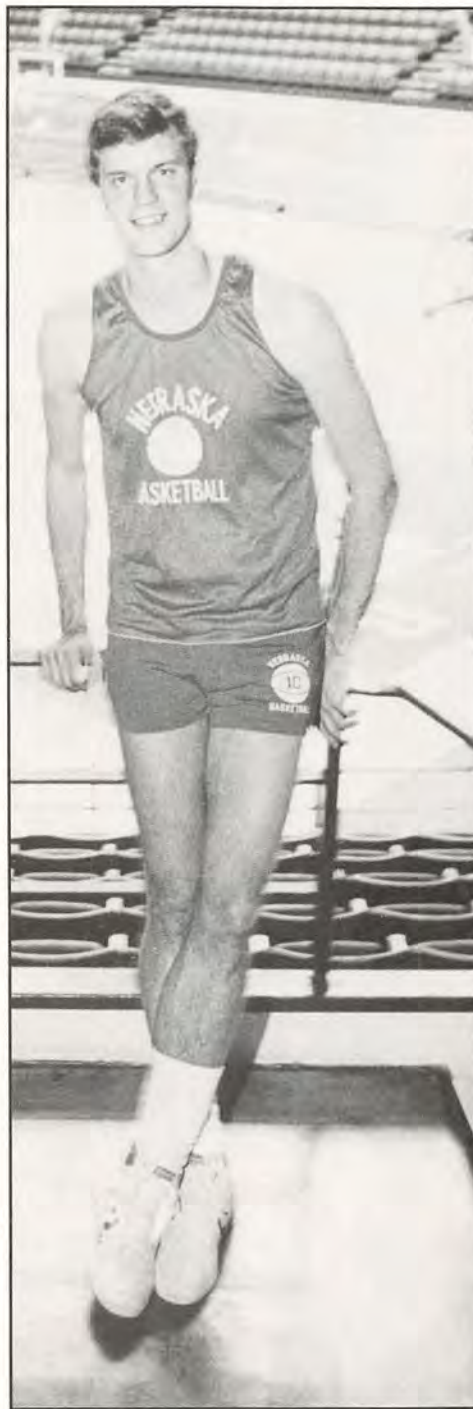
Hoppen finished as Nebraska's all-time scoring leader with 2,167 points, 23 behind Iowa State's Barry Stevens in third place on the Big Eight career list. He ranks second in career rebounding at Nebraska with 773, just nine behind Leroy Chalk.

Hoppen holds 16 school records as well as five conference records, including highest scoring average during a four-year career — 19.5 points per game.

He started 111 consecutive games, five short of the Big Eight record held by Kansas State's Rolando Blackman.

In 19 games, Hoppen shot 61.6 percent from the field, 80.3 percent from the free throw line, and averaged 22.1 points and 7.7 rebounds per game.

The injury will affect Hoppen's status in the June National Basketball Association draft. He was considered a potential first-



Dave Hoppen's brilliant career was ended prematurely by a knee injury.

round pick.

He contemplated turning professional after his junior year. "You can always second-guess something like that, but I don't have any problem with my decision to come back to Nebraska," Hoppen said. "I'm very happy with everything that has gone on here."

"It was just an unfortunate accident. It didn't happen because I was here."

With Hoppen watching from the bench, the Cornhuskers lost to Kansas State 64-54 at the Sports Center, a game that seemed to indicate impending disaster for the remainder of the season.

Without the hub of its offense, Nebraska shot 34.4 percent from the field, a season low.

Ironically, the loss to Kansas State eventually may be included in the victory column. Late in the season, the Wildcats' Norris Coleman was ruled ineligible, a decision which forced Kansas State to forfeit its victories.

The Wildcats, however, have appealed.

With the forfeit, Nebraska would officially finish with a 20-10 record and tie Iowa State for second place in the Big Eight's final standings.

In any case, the Cornhuskers pulled together after the loss to Kansas State and stunned the sixth-largest crowd in Missouri history, 12,882, by defeating the Tigers 75-66 at Columbia.

If there was a single turning point in the season, it was that game.

Nebraska rallied from a five-point deficit in the final 10 minutes to win, even though junior forward Bernard Day fouled out with 9:47 remaining.

Day, a transfer from Moberly, Mo., Junior College finished the season as the team's No. 2 scorer and rebounder, averaging 13.1 points and 6.6 rebounds per game. With Hoppen gone, Day became

Nebraska Basketball Final Stats

Name	G-S	FG-FGA	PCT.	FT-FTA	PCT.	REB	AST	ST	TP	AVG.
Dave Hoppen	19-19	151-245	.616	118-147	.803	147	30	14	420	22.1
Bernard Day	30-30	158-280	.564	76-111	.685	198	83	14	392	13.1
Brian Carr	30-30	139-293	.474	79-93	.849	51	201	31	357	11.9
Harvey Marshall	30-30	149-300	.497	55-74	.743	84	77	19	353	11.8
Chris Logan	30-21	69-140	.493	44-73	.603	150	40	27	182	6.1
Anthony Bailous	29-0	66-135	.489	33-41	.805	38	46	16	165	5.7
John Matzke	30-20	56-114	.491	18-24	.750	105	45	18	130	4.3
Darren Brown	23-0	12-32	.375	11-13	.846	12	15	3	35	1.5
Keith Neubert	23-0	7-17	.412	7-11	.636	24	2	1	21	0.9
Bill Jackman	19-0	10-28	.357	0-3	.000	15	4	0	20	1.1
Mike Martz	18-0	8-22	.364	2-3	.667	5	6	0	18	1.0
Joel Sealer	18-0	4-15	.267	9-12	.750	4	8	3	17	0.9
Deak Vance	6-0	6-14	.429	3-7	.429	6	1	1	15	2.5
Totals	30	835-1635	.511	455-612	.743	902	558	147	2125	70.8
Opponents	30	822-1669	.493	356-537	.663	923	457	164	2000	66.7

Bernard Day (30) was one of the steady hands who picked up the slack after Hoppen's injury.

the focus of media attention, something that had eluded him for the most part, despite his steady play.

However, "I don't let that bother me too much," said Day. "I just wanted to come in, get established and keep playing well. Some guys come into a program, get too much recognition, and go right down the tubes."

Until Hoppen's injury, the 6-5 Day concentrated on rebounding and defense.

But without Hoppen in the lineup, he took more responsibility for scoring, averaging 16.5 points per game in the final 11 games.

The Cornhuskers' late-season success wasn't the result of one player, of course. The Missouri victory was evidence of what could be accomplished if everyone was involved.

Without Hoppen, Nebraska may have been the shortest team in Division I of the NCAA. The Cornhuskers had only one player taller than 6-7, junior Bill Jackman, who's 6-9, and yet they outrebounded Missouri 28-21.

Logan, who's probably shorter than the 6-5 at which he was listed, pulled down 12 of the 28 rebounds. The senior from Natchez, Miss., also emerged after the loss of Hoppen.

Said Logan: "When 'Hop' went down, everybody just gutted it up and said, 'We're going to do what we can.'"

What he did best was rebound. In the final game of the regular season, a 64-60 victory over Kansas State in Manhattan, Logan grabbed 17 rebounds.

No one felt the loss of Hoppen more deeply than Logan, but he resented the attitude that the team "was just 'Hop' surrounded by four mediocre players."

When the Cornhuskers were extended a regional bid by the NCAA, Logan noted: "Some critics are getting a chance to see what we have as a unit."

Nebraska had a 6-5 record without Hoppen, with the most dramatic victory coming at the expense of Oklahoma. The Sooners arrived in Lincoln ranked ninth in the nation by the United Press International and left 66-64 losers.

Carr, who as much as anyone kept the team together, hit a short jump shot with four seconds remaining in the game to give Nebraska the victory.

"You always dream of shots like that," said Carr, who was carried across the court in a post-game celebration initiated by the more demonstrative members of a De-



vane Sports Center audience of 12,465.

"Playing in the backyard, you count down from 10, and you hit the shot; you never miss. I prayed the whole time I was on the court I was going to get the shot. When it finally went down, I was ready to cry I was so happy."

At the time, Oklahoma had the nation's second-highest scoring average (92.2). The Sooners outrebounded Nebraska 32-15 for the game and had Day and Logan in early foul trouble. But they couldn't stop the Cornhuskers.

The enthusiasm that followed the Oklahoma game was tempered by an 81-73 loss to Iowa State in Ames.

Three Nebraska victories later, the Cornhuskers were playing the Cyclones again, this time in the semifinals of the Big

Eight Conference tournament at Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo.

Nebraska advanced by beating Oklahoma State for a third time in the opening round, 82-75. Iowa State got there with an easy victory over Colorado, which failed to win a conference game in what turned out to be Tom Apke's final year as the Buffaloes' head coach.

Iowa State handled the weary Cornhuskers with relative ease, 75-58.

Iba thought Nebraska's chances of receiving an NCAA bid were good after the first-round victory over Oklahoma State, but he kept that feeling to himself. The Cornhuskers returned home, confident their season would continue, but perhaps not in the NCAA tournament.

A fourth consecutive bid from the Na-



Chris Logan (32) responded to the pressure.

tional Invitation Tournament appeared to be a certainty.

Kansas beat Iowa State 73-71 in the conference tournament championship game to earn an automatic NCAA bid.

The Cyclones were virtually assured of receiving an NCAA tournament bid and so was Oklahoma, which lost to Kansas in the semifinals, 72-70.

Missouri, a 78-75 first-round loser to Oklahoma, thought it belonged in the NCAA tournament on the strength of a rugged schedule and 21 victories.

According to senior Harvey Marshall, who averaged 14 points per game after Hoppen went down and 11.8 points per game for the season, most of the Cornhuskers thought they'd have to settle for an NIT bid.

"It (an NCAA bid) was a longshot, but I still had my fingers crossed," Marshall said.

Logan and freshman Darren Brown were watching television when the NCAA announced that Nebraska was one of the five Big Eight teams to whom tournament bids had been extended.

Logan couldn't restrain himself. He turned and hit Brown in the chest with such force, "I think I beat him up."

Senior John Matzke, who didn't have a television set in his apartment, got the news from his mom, who telephoned him soon after the announcement.

As much as anyone, Matzke typified this Nebraska team. Though he didn't possess exceptional physical skills, he worked hard and made few mistakes.

After the upset of Missouri in Columbia, the 6-7 Matzke was asked what it was like to be a member of the nation's shortest team.

"Leaping ability like mine makes up for it," he said with a smile.

Nebraska's season-ending loss to Western Kentucky in the Southeast Regional paralleled, in some ways, the portion of the season without Hoppen.

The Cornhuskers fell behind by 18 points with 10:34 remaining in the game before closing up ranks and pulling to within four, the last time at 61-57 with 35 seconds left.

"We tried to fight back," said Day, who scored 18 points and grabbed nine rebounds in the game.

Nebraska didn't hit some key free throws and committed 13 turnovers, including nine in the first half.

According to Iba, the Cornhuskers were "a little too ready to play" the taller Hilltoppers from Bowling Green, Ky. "We were awfully nervous. We made mistakes we hadn't made all year.

"We were out of sync all night."

Still, Nebraska made a run at Western Kentucky, which finished its season at 23-8 after bowing out to Kentucky in the second round of the regional. Day scored eight of his points during the Cornhuskers' rally, twice converting three-point plays.

Logan finished the game with 10 points and 12 rebounds. Marshall scored 11 points. Carr and Bailous each contributed 10 points.

That's the way the Cornhuskers had to play after Hoppen was injured. Everyone had to get into the act if they were to be successful. And they were.

"After 'Hop' went down, everyone thought we had a mediocre team," said Day. "I guess we proved them wrong."

During the Iba Era, Nebraska was 106-71, a winning percentage of .599. That makes Iba the Cornhuskers' winningest coach in the last 61 years.

Iba, who was an assistant to the late Joe Cipriano for eight years and an assistant head coach the year before taking over the program, never had a losing season at Nebraska. His best record came in 1982-83, when the Cornhuskers reached the semifinals of the NIT and finished 22-10.

Iba did "a good job for us," said Nebraska Athletic Director Bob Devaney. "I admire him, and I hope he finds something he wants."

With that, it ended. ♦

Be A First-Stringer on FCA's Team

By putting on the FCA uniform you become a player—not just a spectator.

Becoming a National Member for \$12.00 qualifies you as a first-stringer on FCA's Team. Becoming a Member shows you're committed to FCA's purpose, helps you take a stand for your Christian beliefs, and enables FCA to stay in touch with you regularly on a year-round basis.

In addition, your \$12.00 membership

fee enables others to discover the adventure of receiving and serving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

"Sure, I belong to a lot of groups at school," says one high school Huddle member. "But FCA membership is special. Being able to share our faith creates a bond between my teammates and me. I enjoy receiving the publications, too. Most of all, I just enjoy identifying with a Christian athletic group."

Your National Membership includes:

- 1) A FCA Membership Card.
- 2) A specially-designed, high-quality "National Member" T-Shirt.
- 3) A one-year subscription to *Sharing the Victory*.
- 4) A special Members-only issue of the *Christian Athlete* magazine.

Fill out the Membership Application below and mail it today to: FCA, 8701 Leeds Road, Kansas City, MO 64129.



FCA STUDENT/COACH/SPONSOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME

HOME ADDRESS

COLLEGE ADDRESS (if applicable)

LAST NAME										FIRST NAME									
STREET ADDRESS																			
CITY										STATE					ZIP				
COLLEGE ADDRESS																			
CITY										STATE					ZIP				

FOR FCA USE ONLY

SC

My T-Shirt size is:

- ☐ Small (34-36)
☐ Medium (38-40)
☐ Large (42-44)
☐ X-Large (46)

College Students: **Sharing the Victory** magazine will be mailed to your college address during the school year and to your home during the summer.

I AM A

- ☐ JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT
☐ HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
☐ COLLEGE STUDENT
☐ COACH (sport _____)
☐ ADULT SPONSOR (non coach)

M OR F

SEX ☐

GRADUATION YEAR

DATE OF BIRTH

MONTH

DAY

YEAR

WHAT SCHOOL DO YOU ATTEND?

school _____
 city _____ state _____

Jason Gamble and Pernell Gatson will tell you there's a lot more to life than playing football at the University of Nebraska. In the same breath, both will say how honored they feel in having the opportunity to suit up in the Crimson and White.

The next time the Cornhuskers break from underneath Memorial Stadium onto the field will no doubt be a special experience for those two. That moment, in all likelihood, will mark the return of Gatson and Gamble, who have spent over a year in anonymity recovering from knee operations.

"I'm ready to get back out there," Gamble said. "It's going to be an exciting year."

Gamble had that feeling when he first became a Cornhusker. His desire to play football at Nebraska was so great that he spent a semester working in his hometown of Santa Barbara, Calif., waiting for a scholarship to open up.

When it did, in the spring of 1984, things opened up quickly for the talented wide receiver. He was an exception to the Nebraska rule that says all freshmen will play for the junior varsity team. When the season opener rolled around, Gamble had worked his way up the depth chart to the alternate split end spot with senior Scott Kimball.

Speed made him the Huskers' most dangerous longball threat, and in a tight game against Oklahoma State, Gamble hauled in a 64-yard TD pass from Travis Turner to break the Cowboys' backs. He caught six more passes and another touchdown before a Nov. 10 game against Kansas.

It was a week before Nebraska's Big Eight showdown against Oklahoma, and Gamble was showing his ballcarrying abilities were a threat too, this time on an end-around. At first, the play looked like a success — it gained 11 yards. In reality, it turned out to be disastrous.

While cutting upfield, Gamble severely twisted his knee.

"I cut to a player and heard it go crack, crack, crack. It didn't hurt, but it just didn't feel right," Gamble said. "They made me wear crutches after the game because they didn't know for sure how severe it was."

The next day, Gamble woke up from arthroscopic surgery knowing the severity of his injury. He had torn the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. Suddenly, the wait to become a Husker and the quick rise to the top seemed insignificant.

"I woke up and there's this cast on clear up to my hip," Gamble said. "I immediately thought about whether I'd ever play again or not. Thinking like that hindered me a lot, more mentally than physically."

Gamble was in shock because never before had he suffered an injury which kept

him out of action. So affected was he that even getting a free education seemed unimportant.

"It hurt my schooling because I couldn't move at all and couldn't finish up the semester. (Quitting) went through my mind. I did call home about it and my mother just said that it was my decision and whatever I did she'd back me up 100 percent.

"But I had never quit anything in my life and I didn't want to start just because of an injury, even though I never had been injured before. I knew that if I stuck it out that I'd have a lot of people behind me."

More than a month after the injury, Gamble had his cast replaced by a brace. When that came off a month and a half later, he began the painful process of rehabilitation.

"At first, even walking was tough because my leg was so stiff," Gamble said. "I'd sit in the whirlpool to loosen up the joint and then work out on the bike for about an hour. It was real intense.

"But I was still down about things because I didn't see any results and I wanted results on THAT day I was in there. I even missed some sessions because of that, but Pernell made it easier for me. I'd see him working so hard and it would make me want to try as much."

Sitting out the 1985 season was equally hard on Gamble, but he persevered. When spring practice for the 1986 season opened, Gamble was almost fully recovered.

"I test it on my own a lot. I run 40s and have pretty good speed, it's the lateral movement that still isn't quite there," Gamble said. "I'm about two 10ths of a second off where I want to be, but I figure I can cut that down by August."

Currently, Gamble is listed second on the depth chart.

"I'm a little rusty and need to work on a couple of things," Gamble said. "Having speed is the most important thing, but I need to get the concentration back, too. I've missed some balls and some assignments, but I think that will all come as I practice more.

"I want to come back to where I was. I see myself making my way up, earning what I get. Right now, I feel comfortable on second team. I know a lot of people who would resent being there, but I look at it as a challenge for me to work hard."

Gatson, after quarterbacking the 1982-

83 freshman team, sat out the next season learning the wingback position. By the end of his sophomore season, he had climbed to third team on the depth chart.

"It took me a year, year and a half to adjust," Gatson said. "I was feeling pretty comfortable, and then on the first day of winter conditioning I planted my left leg and twisted it and the knee popped."

Gatson, now a senior, missed the rest of the conditioning, but was optimistic he could still play in the spring. But on the first day of drills, he injured the knee again, this time much more severely.

"It turned out that the injury was a very old one that I suffered in high school," Gatson said. "But I wrestled with it and when I came here it wasn't bothering me that much so I ended up playing. I guess slowly but surely it just took its course and tore up."

He had reconstructive surgery in mid-April of 1985 and will get to fully test the knee this spring.

"The strength is there, it's just that I need to run faster speeds," Gatson said. "They say I won't be as fast as I want until August. I guess I can wait until then to see."

The healing process was tough for Gatson, but injuries are nothing new to the



Pernell Gatson (left) and Jason Gamble (right) are happy to be back in action for the Huskers.

two-time Nebraska high school state wrestling champion from Omaha Central.

He had a bone growth on his right knee cut off when he was a ninth grader and had cartilage removed from the same knee as a junior. When he got to Nebraska he was hampered by turf toe in 1983 and had a hip pointer the spring of 1984 before his left knee gave out last year.

"You could say that spring really isn't my favorite time of year," Gatson said. "This spring will be the first one that I really get the chance to go the whole dis-

tance."

Not coincidentally, this spring will also tell Gatson what he needs to know.

"It took a long time to come back. Times when I was running and not really feeling like I was running as fast as I could were really tough," Gatson said. "Now that I've gotten this far, I need to prove to myself that I can still play. I feel like I still have it.

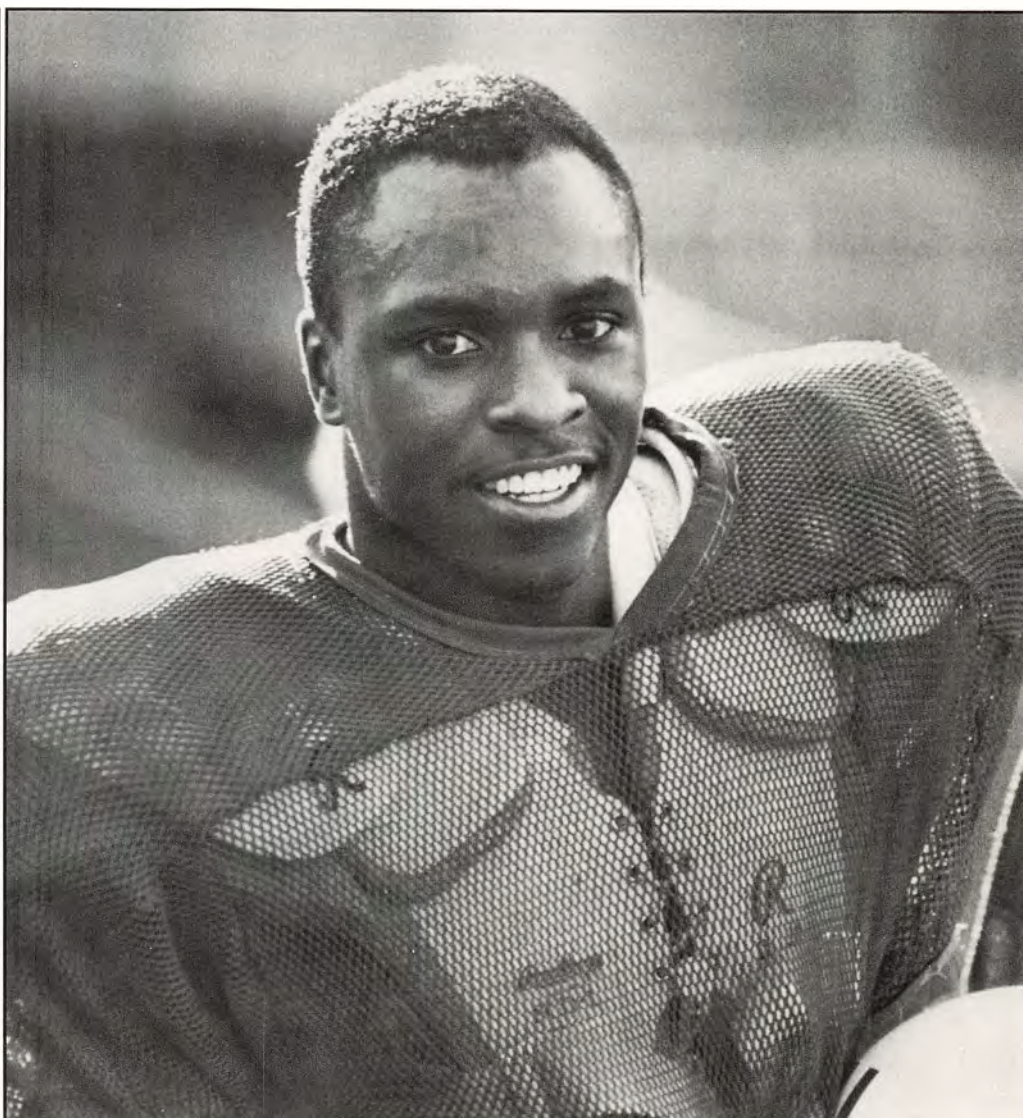
"Last year was supposed to be my year. This year it all depends on how hard I work. Von Shepard and Dana Brinson are

ahead of me and Ray Nelson and Richard Bell are two very capable players as well. I guess my name has carried me into the position that I'm in right now. With that, I've got to put the talent that comes along with it. I feel I have a lot of heart and desire built inside of me that I have to show now."

No one questioned whether either Gamble or Gatson had those qualities. Fortunately for both players, they're getting the chance to show them on the field. ♦

Fighting Back From Obscurity

Jason Gamble and Pernell Gatson are just happy to be back in Husker uniforms after serious knee injuries.



You've got to believe in your product.

That's one of the most important qualities a salesman can have.

That's also one of the main reasons Dave Gillespie accepted an offer from Coach Tom Osborne to become Nebraska's on-campus football recruiter. Gillespie believes in Osborne's program.

"Nebraska has given me a lot of great times, great opportunities. It's certainly been an important part of my life, and I'm thrilled to be a part of it," Gillespie said.

Gillespie became a full-time part of the program in early March, following the resignation of Steve Pederson, who left after four years to join the Lincoln brokerage firm of Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc.

Last fall, Gillespie was a Cornhusker graduate assistant, coaching the freshman-junior varsity quarterbacks and running backs and helping Pederson during the heaviest part of the recruiting season.

Prior to that, he spent three years as the head football coach at Hastings High School and four years at Lincoln High, coaching the girls' track and field team and assisting with the football team.

Coaching has been his career objective ever since his second tryout as a free agent running back with the Pittsburgh Steelers failed because of a recurrent hamstring injury.

"The overwhelming desire, of course, was to play professional football," said Gillespie, who almost made the Steelers' roster in 1978.

"I really had a great opportunity, not because I was that good but because they were poor in running backs," he said. "Beyond Franco Harris and Rocky Bleier, they were really thin. They alluded to that at the beginning of training camp and said my chances were good."

But the hamstring problems which had slowed him during much of his senior year at Nebraska resurfaced. His optimism faded into disappointment, and he was released before the season. Gillespie still considers that experience "the most frustrating part of my life. I really would've liked to try pro football," he said.

With his professional football aspirations gone, he turned to coaching, "which was always in the back of my mind," said Gillespie, who comes from a coaching family.

His father and brother coached at the high school level before moving on to work in school administration.

Except for playing in the National Football League, coaching "is all I really ever thought about doing," Gillespie said.

Gillespie, a Cornhusker I-back in the mid-1970s, returned to Lincoln with that in mind. "I really enjoyed high school coaching, but I wanted to be in a situation

where it was more of a full-time thing. You couldn't do that in high school," he said. "College was the only avenue that would allow you to coach full-time."

When Osborne contacted him about replacing Pederson, Gillespie was surprised. "I was surprised that Steve was leaving and I was surprised that Tom would approach me about the job. I don't have any formal background in recruiting, although I think high school coaching is, to a large extent, recruiting, selling yourself and your program to kids. That's basically what you have to do," said Gillespie.

After the initial surprise, he had to decide if he was willing to give up coaching,

or at least set that goal aside for a while.

He realized he couldn't do both.

Under NCAA rules, Division I football programs are allowed only nine full-time coaches. As the on-campus recruiter, Gillespie doesn't count against that total.

Jack Pierce, who now has the title of recruiting coordinator in addition to his on-the-road responsibilities, does. "Pierce has been a member of Osborne's staff for eight years.

Gillespie's decision to accept Osborne's offer was based, primarily, on two considerations — his family and the nature of the job.

First, "I had to think what would be best



for me and my family, and working full-time for a program of Nebraska's caliber is a great opportunity in any capacity," he said.

Second, as a recruiter, "you're still close to coaching. The job offers a challenge, and that's what you're looking for as a coach, a challenge and being able to work with young people."

Gillespie's respect for Nebraska's program can be traced to his own experience as a Cornhusker recruit. He was a freshman in 1973, Osborne's first season as head coach. Rick Duval, who coached the linebackers, was Nebraska's recruiting coordinator at the time.

Following a successful career at Westmont High in Campbell, Calif., Gil-

lespie drew recruiting attention from several major colleges, among them UCLA, Oregon, Brigham Young University and Arizona State, the other schools to which he made official visits in addition to Nebraska.

Much of his recruitment was handled by George Darlington, who had just left nearby San Jose State to join Osborne's staff as defensive ends coach. The Cornhuskers were attractive because of their back-to-back national championships in 1970 and 1971.

"That was pretty impressive," Gillespie said.

But that wasn't the main reason he picked the Cornhuskers. "Nebraska does such a good job of recruiting, and it did

then," said Gillespie. "They were really a classy organization . . . not that the others weren't, but Nebraska was a little above the rest.

"They were the most polished in terms of recruiting."

Gillespie decided early on that distance wasn't going to be a factor in his decision, "and if I added up everything else, Nebraska seemed to have the qualities I was looking for."

Like the players he'll be recruiting, Gillespie found himself in awe of Memorial Stadium on game day.

"The thing you remember the most is the first time you run out on the field for a game," he said.

That experience came early for him. He

Gillespie Makes The Full Cycle...

...From a Nebraska recruit to a Husker player to a graduate assistant coach — and now the new Husker On-Campus Recruiting Coordinator.



Dave Gillespie (left) will take over on-campus recruiting duties while Jack Pierce (right) will serve as Recruiting Coordinator on the road. Pat Sudman (center) will help both.

was one of a handful of freshmen who suited up for the nationally televised opener in 1973, Osborne's first game as head coach. The Cornhuskers gave him a 40-13 victory over UCLA.

The memory is still vivid for Gillespie, who "just kind of floated onto the field" when he heard the "crescendo of the crowd."

The "scariest moment" of that game came late in the fourth quarter. "We were way ahead," said Gillespie, who heard Mike Corgan, Nebraska's running backs coach at the time, call his name. "He told me, 'The next time we get the ball, you're going in.' That was a shocking experience."

"Fortunately for me, we never got the ball back because I wouldn't have remembered any of the plays."

Gillespie remembered the plays well enough to score a touchdown in the season-opener his sophomore year. He ran six yards, with 9:49 remaining in the fourth quarter, to score Nebraska's next-to-last touchdown in a 61-7 victory over Oregon.

He started for the first time in his Cornhusker career against Minnesota later that season, rushing for 77 yards and scoring two touchdowns in a 54-0 victory in Memorial Stadium.

Gillespie finished his most productive season with 254 yards on 67 carries. He scored five touchdowns.

The hamstring problems began in his

junior year, during which he rushed for 238 yards, including 106 on 22 carries in a 63-21 victory over Colorado, and scored four touchdowns.

In retrospect, "the thing I really kick myself about is, the (hamstring) injury itself wasn't one that would usually debilitate a person to the point that he couldn't play," said Gillespie. "But in my own haste, I tried to get back on it too soon. I wasn't very smart."

"It's really frustrating to know you probably could have controlled the situation better."

He thought he had the situation under control that spring.

Gillespie, Nebraska's fastest I-back, had a good spring his junior year, capping it by rushing for 101 yards on 11 attempts and scoring a touchdown in the annual Red-White intrasquad game.

"I did real well in the spring," he said. "A lot of people were saying that I was going to be a good player, and I got to thinking that maybe I was. Then the injuries started happening again. It was like, every time I started getting back and close to success, something would happen."

He was injured in the opener of his senior season, a 6-6 tie with Louisiana State. His totals that year were 15 carries, 56 yards, two touchdowns.

Though he didn't play much that season, Gillespie matured and came to some realizations which he hopes he can pass

along to the athletes he'll now help recruit.

"A lot of people don't realize what a traumatic experience it is for a kid to put his whole life into football, playing football, and then have something like that take it away from him. It's difficult to handle," Gillespie said. "It made me grow up a little. I realized that you have to sell yourself for what you are not just because you're a Big Red football player. That can happen here."

"People put you on a pedestal, and it's easy to fall into that."

When he was unable to play, Gillespie found out that "people will accept you, regardless. It just depends on the kind of person you are."

Without the ego boost that comes from being a Cornhusker football player, he discovered "you've got to work on being a more total person, concentrate on your personal qualities. Football prolongs adolescence," Gillespie said. "It's a game; that's the lifestyle."

"I don't think we prepare kids, emotionally, for life after football. The football program tries to do everything for you, almost any need you have is taken care of because you're a football player."

Gillespie doesn't fault the system, and he believes that Nebraska does "a pretty good job of keeping its head in the real world. But it's hard because Cornhusker football is the only game in town," he said.

According to Gillespie, football players, or any major college athletes for that matter, may be basically confident in what they do. But there's a certain amount of insecurity, which "is one reason you get into athletics in the first place. You enjoy the limelight, having other people tell you that you're doing a good job."

Injuries, in particular, can take away that limelight and with it, the security. "Suddenly, you're not in the football program; you're on your own," said Gillespie. "Some people aren't emotionally ready for that. It's a tough adjustment. They've based their self worth on something, and it's gone."

"I've seen so many former players who have never adjusted to the fact that they're not playing any more."

Gillespie's message to recruits will be direct, honest. He'll take the same approach that worked when he was being recruited by the Cornhuskers.

The important things, the beliefs on which the program was built and maintained, haven't changed in the 13 years Osborne has been head coach.

Gillespie hopes Nebraska's players can take the attitude that their experience "will open some doors, but it won't always keep the doors open."

His background as a Cornhusker football player opened a door. "It's the reason I'm here," said Gillespie. "I'd never be in a position to have this perspective if I hadn't played here." ♦

HUSKER DESK CLOCKS!!

**HURRY, WHILE OUR LIMITED SUPPLY LASTS, AND ORDER
YOUR HUSKER DIGITAL DESK CLOCK — THE PERFECT
"HUSKER GIFT" — FOR ONLY \$9.95!**

ORDER FORM

PLEASE SEND ME _____ HUSKER CLOCK(S).

PAYMENT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

CHARGE MY: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

CHARGE # : _____

EXPIRES: _____

PLEASE SEND MY CLOCK(S) TO:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

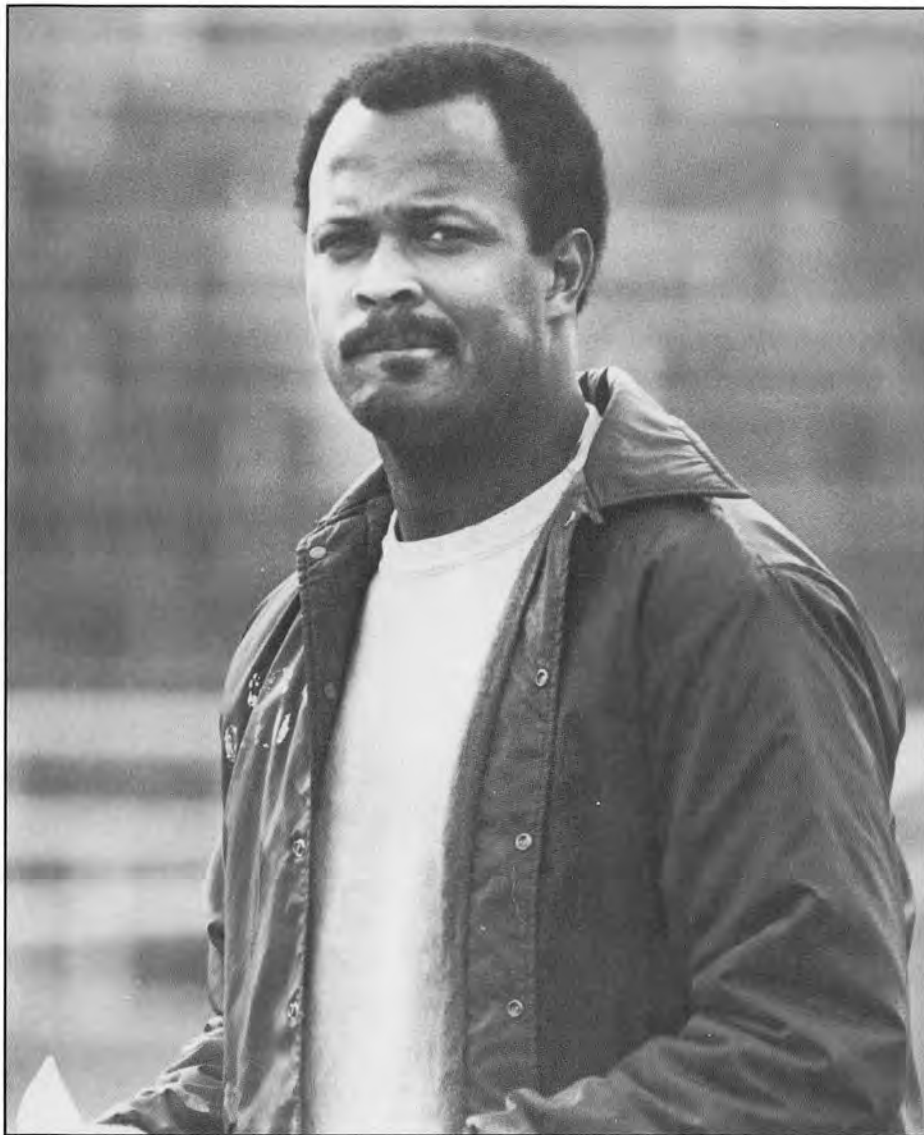
STATE & ZIP: _____

**1ST CLASS POSTAGE & HANDLING INCLUDED
MINIMUM DELIVERY TIME: 10 DAYS**



**EACH CLOCK COMES WITH HUSKER
FOOTBALL SCHEDULES THROUGH 1987 & A
PERPETUAL CALENDAR!**

Huskies Illustrated, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501



New Husker Coach
Tony Samuel.

Samuel Joins Revised Coaching Staff

Former Husker
star leaves
Stanford for a
chance at national
championship.

It's not as if Tony Samuel is starting from scratch. Quite the contrary.

He knows most of what there is to know about playing defensive end for the Nebraska football team.

Samuel knows because he's done it, which is just about the best set of credentials a coach can have.

Samuel started at defensive end for the Cornhuskers as a junior and senior, in 1976 and 1977, opposite All-American George Andrews. His sophomore year, he backed up Ray Phillips.

That's why the transition has been smooth. When Nebraska began spring practice, "everybody seemed to know what he was doing," said Cornhusker Coach Tom Osborne.

By "everybody," Osborne meant the newest full-time members of his staff, which has undergone some significant changes since the end of last season.

The first change was a result of the re-

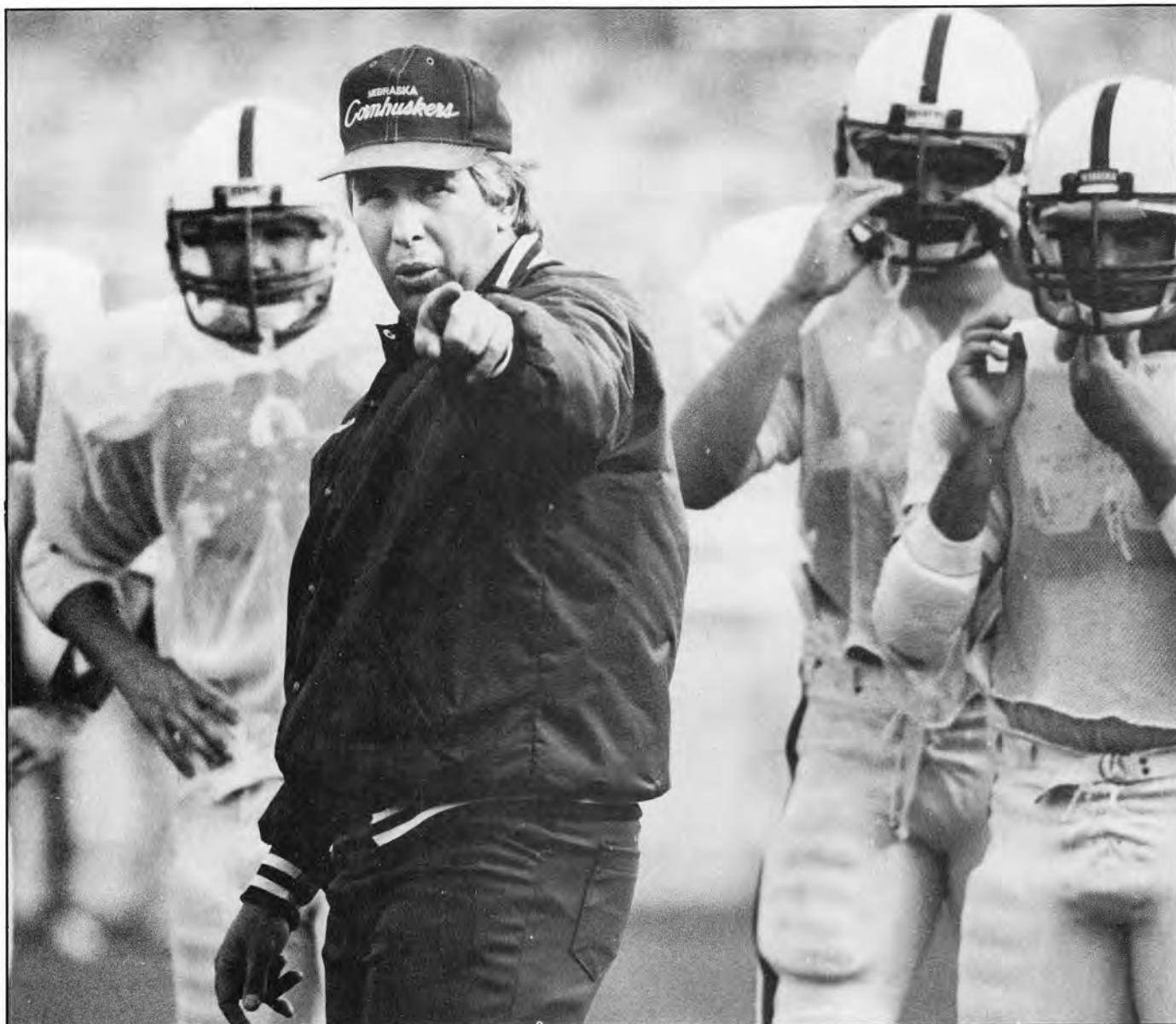
tirement of Clete Fischer, who spent 26 years coaching at Nebraska. Fischer worked with the offensive line and coached the kickers.

His replacement is Dan Young, the Cornhusker freshman coach as a graduate assistant for the past three years. During that time, Young's freshman-jayvee teams were 14-1.

His promotion to full-time status has been in the works "for about two years," said Osborne. "Dan has been kind of preparing himself for a couple of years. We knew Clete was going to be retiring eventually. We just didn't know exactly when."

Young has paid his coaching dues.

He came to Nebraska from Westside High School in Omaha, where he was the head coach for six years. Under his direction, the Warriors were 55-11, reaching the Class A state championship game three times and winning back-to-back state ti-



George Darlington makes a point during spring drills.

tles in 1981 and 1982. Westside was 12-0 both seasons.

Young began his coaching career at Barneston, Ne., High School, spending three seasons there. He was an assistant coach at St. Paul, Ne., High for one season, followed by 11 seasons as an assistant at Westside.

The other change in Osborne's full-time staff is a result of the resignation of Bob Thornton, the Cornhuskers' defensive backs coach for the last five seasons.

Replacing Thornton was more involved. Osborne moved George Darlington, the defensive ends coach for 13 seasons, to the secondary and hired Samuel, who played for Darlington, to coach the defensive ends.

"George is pretty knowledgeable about the whole defense and the coverages, so it really hasn't been any problem," Osborne said of the switch.

Darlington spent time with the second-

ary coaches of the National Football League Oakland Raiders and Kansas City Chiefs during the off-season, preparing for his new role.

"George will do a good job," said Charlie McBride, Nebraska's defensive coordinator. "One thing that happens is, when you have a guy who really knows football like George and he moves to a new position, he works even harder at paying attention to the little things."

Attention to detail characterizes Darlington's coaching style.

It's also important to Samuel.

"I'm familiar with the old system, but I've got to get caught up with the little things that've been added since I left Nebraska. They're not dramatic, just some little things."

Samuel has been coaching long enough to know that the little things can make a big difference.

He began coaching as a graduate assis-

tant in the spring of 1978, spending four seasons working with the freshman defensive ends.

Samuel moved on to become an assistant in charge of the defensive line at Western Michigan for two seasons. The last two years, he's been the defensive line coach for Jack Elway at Stanford.

His experiences at Western Michigan and Stanford were both positive, but "I'd always had it in the back of my mind if I ever got a shot to come back to Nebraska and go after a national championship, that'd be the thing I'd want to do."

The Cornhuskers had won back-to-back national titles just prior to Samuel's recruitment out of high school in Jersey City, N.J.

He and Larry Young, a high school teammate, came to Nebraska together, with visions of winning a national championship. "We were thinking about it," Samuel said.

Former Cornhusker assistant Monte Kiffin, who's now coaching in the NFL, handled their recruitment. "We liked Monte and his style," said Samuel. "And we liked the program. It was what we were after."

Young, who finished his career at Nebraska as a reserve defensive end, also lives in Lincoln, managing a fast-food restaurant.

Samuel isn't obsessed with winning a national title, but he learned as a player that in order to be successful "you have to have something like that as a goal," he said. "You don't really sit down and analyze it, but it's there in the back of your mind."

Samuel didn't hesitate to accept Osborne's offer to return to Nebraska.

"Tom contacted Jack Elway; Jack told me the usual things; I came out to look at the situation, and here I am," Samuel said. "I always wanted to come back. I didn't anticipate being called."

"It was definitely a big surprise to me. Then, when it happened, I had to sit back and think it over. But it didn't take much thinking."

One of the most different aspects of changing jobs has been explaining why he'd want to leave the moderate climate of northern California.

Samuel has come to expect the question: "Everyone wants to know, 'Why did you leave that weather?' I've been getting ribbed left and right about that."

When he got back to Nebraska, Samuel found mostly unfamiliar faces among those placed in his charge.

The defensive ends he coached on the freshman-junior varsity team, players like Scott Tucker and Gregg Reeves, completed their eligibility last fall.

He didn't start completely from scratch. "I knew a couple of players who were being recruited at the time, but that's one of the challenges, learning the names," said Samuel.

"There are so many of them. Right now, I walk into a guy and I'm not sure who he is. That may be the toughest thing, just getting back into the swing of knowing everybody."

Though three of Nebraska's top four defensive ends from a year ago are gone, Samuel didn't find the cupboard bare. Tony Holloway, who will be a senior in the fall, and Broderick Thomas, who will be a sophomore, are the most experienced.

Brad Tyrer, another senior-to-be, is talented but has been hampered by injuries throughout his career.

Most of the others are young. Jeff Jamrog will be a junior. Steve Stanard, who redshirted last season, Randall Jobman and Bump Novacek, a converted tight end, are

among several who will be sophomores in the fall.

In preparing for his new job, Samuel studied film of last season's games. However, "on a lot of the film you see the three guys who are gone," he said. "I've seen some film on Holloway, Thomas and Tyrer, and the guys who got in during the latter stages of games last season."

The lack of film doesn't concern Samuel, who also discussed the players with Darlington. "I didn't want to have any preconceived ideas," Samuel said. "I wanted to come in here with an open mind, see for myself where everybody stood and pretty much go from there, do my own evaluations as far as the players are concerned. I like to come in with an open mind and say, 'Hey, you've got to show me.'"

As a group, Nebraska's defensive ends are going to be young. "But I think they're going to be really talented," said Samuel.



Dan Young

"The challenge is to make sure that we play aggressively and that we are not second-guessing ourselves out there. We want to be comfortable and aggressive and make sure with our youth that we cut down on our mistakes right away."

Even though the Cornhuskers' defensive ends may have enough athletic ability to cover up their mistakes, "we don't want to be out of position all the time," Samuel said.

Last fall, an *Omaha World-Herald* story pointed out that Nebraska's football coaching staff had far and away more seniority than any other staff in the Big Eight Conference.

Cornhusker coaches had 136 years of combined service, with Oklahoma a distant second at 88 years.

According to Missouri head coach Woody Widenhofer: "It's amazing. The

great thing about Nebraska, No. 1, is that they have so much continuity and stability. The bottom is never going to fall out of that program."

That stability is, at least in part, a result of the fact Nebraska has had only two head coaches since 1962.

"The more times a head coach changes, the more you will find assistants change," said Frank Solich, who will begin his eighth season as a member of Osborne's staff this fall.

Like Samuel, the Cornhuskers' running backs coach played at Nebraska.

Osborne believes the stability of his staff has contributed to the Cornhuskers' dramatic success.

"I think it helps," he said. "When you have to replace a lot of coaches, you tend to lose a lot of ground in recruiting. So many times when a coach leaves, it's right at the start of the recruiting year, and it's usually two or three weeks before you get another coach hired."

"By the time you get a guy hired, he's lost ground, and you really lost that (recruiting) area for a year. Some staffs, where they average two or three coaches leaving every year, that knocks them out of maybe 30 percent of their recruiting area. And if that goes on year-after-year, it really hurts."

In addition, most recruits are looking for continuity in a coaching staff.

Staff continuity also leads to better communication. "When we talk about a 'scoop block' or a 'help call' or whatever, everybody knows what we're talking about," said Osborne.

"And we've been at our offensive and defensive schemes long enough that we're able to adjust more quickly in a game. If something different happens, we're able to go back to something we did last year, two years ago, or three years ago in the bowl game. You kind of know what you want to do."

Samuel kind of knows what to do, even though he's been gone for four years.

Not only does he know the system, he's played in it, and "this is something I can relate to," he said.

He can also relate to those who play for him. "Knowing what goes through their minds as they play the position, I've got pretty good idea of that," Samuel said.

Nebraska Coaches' Experience (years as graduate assistants included)

Tom Osborne — beginning his 25th
John Melton — linebackers, 25th
George Darlington — secondary, 14th
Milt Tenopir — offensive line, 12th
Charlie McBride — def. coord./line, 10th
Gene Huey — receivers, 10th
Jack Pierce — recruiting coord., 9th
Frank Solich — running backs, 8th
Tony Samuel — defensive ends, 5th
Dan Young — off. line and kickers, 4th ♦



Neumann Makes The Most Of His Opportunity

Mid-season resignation by Fehrs leaves the door open for the Big Eight's youngest wrestling coach.

By Curt McKeever

Nebraska wrestling Coach Tim Neumann has played the part.

Senior All-American heavyweight Gary Albright may be looking at making a career out of it.

Bad boys. They talk tough, rile up the crowd, perhaps play the bully, but most importantly, they usually produce. Neumann did all of those things this year after he took over the Nebraska position in mid-November when the school's winningest coach, Bob Fehrs, resigned to pursue other interests.

"I had a week to prepare for it because I knew he was going through the interview process," Neumann said. "But I think the team was overwhelmed because Fehrs went into the team meeting that night and said basically, 'I'm getting out of coaching. It's not because of you guys, it's just that I'm tired of coaching and I'm getting on with my private life.' Then he said, 'Tim will be your new head coach' and left the room.

"The guys were all sad and had their heads down and I said, 'nobody died,' and got kind of a chuckle out of that. I told them that they could either fold up or reach some goals, and that's right when I said what I wanted to do this year."

Neumann's goals for his team was to win 16 of 21 duals and to qualify all 10 wrestlers for the NCAA Championships. The only shortcoming to that was that only nine made it.

But before he left for the NCAA meet, Neumann was rewarded by being officially named Nebraska's head coach.

"I was real happy that they made it then because it had come out in a Des Moines newspaper that Coach Fehrs was trying to get the job back," Neumann said. "I was getting a lot of calls from Iowa recruits who I had been working with for a couple years and now we were getting real close to being able to sign those people. Now, all of a sudden there's confusion as to who's going to be the coach. They wanted to know what was going on and all I could tell them was to hang with me until after the national meet because that's when Coach Devaney (now Nebraska's Athletic Director) said that they would make a definite decision.

"But also, Coach Devaney said that if the season went well, that I'd be able to retain the job. I felt that the season went extremely well, but I didn't know how they would look at Fehrs reapplying. Inadvertently, it made me put more pressure on myself, which made me put more pressure on my team to do better, and in wrestling you always do better if you can do the job on the mat relaxed. We worked for the relaxed intensity and sometimes I think I kept the team from having that just because I was pressured so much to win."

Neumann handled the pressure because

he's young enough to dream about winning. At 28, he's the youngest coach in the Big Eight Conference.

"I think 20 years of coaching had soured (Fehrs) a little bit about dreaming, and myself being in just the fifth year of any kind of coaching, I believe and I dream that Nebraska can be Big Eight and national champions in the next four or five years," Neuman said. "I truly believe that, my assistant believes it and we're getting the kids to believe it. That's the difference.

"Bob's more of a realist and said, 'I've been doing college coaching for 15 years and we've never won the national championship, and I've been in the Big Eight for seven years and we've never won the Big Eight Championship.' But there's certain things he was doing that I feel maybe kept

Nebraska from achieving those goals. I'll find out in probably seven or eight years if I was dreaming or not."

Neumann started working on those dreams three years ago, when he took an assistant coaching job on Fehrs' staff. Before then, he had wrestled for Fehrs at Northern Michigan and Nebraska, then coached at Plainville (Kan.) High School for two years. During his two years there, Neumann took a team which hadn't scored a point at the Kansas state meet the year prior to his arrival, to a third-place showing. Fehrs called shortly afterwards.

"I took that position with the understanding that he wasn't going to stay in coaching forever," Neumann said. "I figured that he may stay in it five to seven years and that would put me right around 30 or 31 years old, which is about the right age to take a move like that.

"The whole thing happened three or four years ahead of schedule, but I felt ready for it. I recruited 90 percent of the guys on the team and as far as technique, I feel real capable of doing a good job. The administrative part, Fehrs had really worked at teaching me the ins and outs of scholarships and all of that, so I felt real positive about it."

Despite the timing of Fehrs' resignation.

"I think at the time, Fehrs felt in his own mind that he was getting out, so as a team we were not working at the level and intensity that we needed to," Neumann said. "We had Iowa State in 10 days so that first night we started kicking their butts just trying to wear them out. They didn't like that right away, but when we went to Iowa State the kids saw that all we lacked against them was the intensity and conditioning, and they started realizing that what I was doing was getting them to where they needed to be."

Albright, who finished second at the NCAA meet as a sophomore and third his senior campaign this year, was one of the first Huskers to understand that.

"At first, I wasn't really sure how to react," he said. "I thought this was my senior year and that I'd do it all for myself, but as soon as Fehrs actually left, Tim would tell me what he wanted me to do and then he'd ask me what I thought about it.

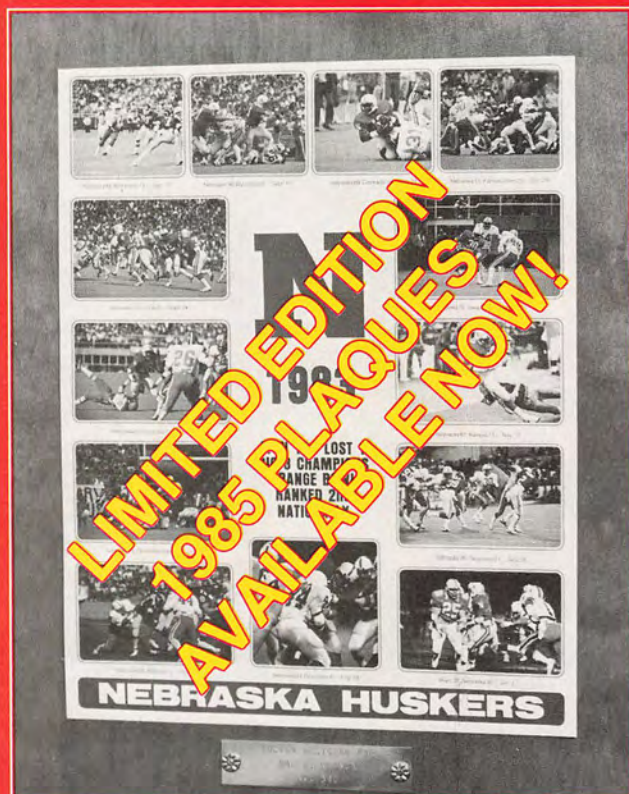
"He runs things real democratically, but he's a disciplinarian. He really doesn't care what you do off the mat, as long as you don't get into trouble, but when it comes to wrestling, you better be ready.

"Tim has a lot of ambition and I think he'll do anything possible to keep it going. He's the perfect person to take the job over — he's going to push the program and weed people out who don't want to win national championships. That's the type of coach you need."

Neumann just thinks he has the right



Order Your 1985 Husker Commemorative Plaque!



Includes:

Color Photographs
Complete Statistics
Team Roster
Big Eight Results
Game-By-Game Summaries

This 13" x 16" wall plaque is the sixth in our series and features color, action photos from each of the 12 Husker games of 1985, including the Fiesta Bowl appearance against Michigan. The photos are mounted on a top-grain, walnut board and laminated for lasting protection. On the back of each plaque you'll find complete results from each game of the 1985 season plus the 1985 Husker team roster, scores from all games of the Big Eight Conference and game-by-game statistics. Each plaque is individually numbered and is one of a limited edition. Only 1,000 are made each year. We also personalize each plaque by adding a brass name plate, inscribed according to your wishes and mounted on the lower, front center of each plaque.

A GREAT GIFT IDEA!

Our price is still — **\$39.⁹⁵** plus
\$4.00 for shipping and handling.

I want to place my order for the 1985 Husker Commemorative Wall Plaque! I understand that if not completely satisfied, I may return the plaque and receive a full refund.

***My Plaque No.** _____

☐ I've enclosed my CHECK/MONEY ORDER

☐ Charge my credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

Charge No./Exp. Date _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE & ZIP: _____

***IF PAST PLAQUES HAVE BEEN PURCHASED.**

Mail to: HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED, P.O. BOX 83222, LINCOLN, NE 68501

kind of athletes. Of the 17 he recruited two years ago, 12 are still on the team. Last year's recruiting class, labeled by *Amateur Wrestling News* as the eighth best in the country, brought in eight more wrestlers and all are still with Neumann.

"I really concentrated on not letting things fall apart this year and there were two times when they could've," Neumann said. "The first time was right at the end of the semester. I was working their butts off right after I got the job and the guys weren't sure I knew what I was doing. I could understand that because I had never coached college and I didn't have an assistant at the time. We lost to Iowa State badly, but I just kept working them harder and harder. We'd win a match and I'd get harder still and we'd win again and I'd keep increasing the pace. They started questioning whether I knew what the hell was going on. They said they'd burn out, but I knew that wasn't going to happen.

"We had a meet coming up against North Dakota State right before Christmas and they had beaten us badly last year, but we went out and killed them this time. We took a week off and came back for three days before the Midwest (tournament). Those three days, I worked the guys out three times a day, and they thought I was nuts. But we went to compete and got five guys in the semifinals — better than Nebraska had ever done — and I think then that they believed they'd give me another chance."

Later in the season, an incident involving Albright, brought on more pressure for Neumann.

"It was right before the Drake meet in February," he said. "We already had four guys sick with the flu who weren't going to wrestle, and then Albright called up sick five minutes before the meet. He didn't want to go, but came anyway. We woke him up five minutes before his match and he pinned the guy to give us a one-point win.

"After the match, I worked them out and some of the kids were still sick and cranky and some words were exchanged. That was the point where things could've gotten out of hand and we could've gone down the tubes. But I shut everybody up and told them that they wouldn't be acting like that if they didn't want to be winners. They were teed off because they weren't beating the crap out of people. After that, everybody got healthy just in time for the Big Eight meet.

"I lucked out. I had some super kids, good character kids. Albright was a good leader...Chris Marisette was a good leader, and they helped keep things together. They were seniors and could've mutinied on me, and I would've been hurting if they would've."

But Neumann survived, and says what he learned from the situation can only help

future Nebraska teams.

"Albright taught me one big thing," he said. "It was when he was wrestling after he got beat in the semifinals at the NCAA meet. I wanted him to be a national champion so damn bad, but when he wrestled the next morning he said he felt no pressure at all. He went out and threw a guy who ended up placing fifth, threw him unbelievably high and pinned him. Then he went out and wrestled the No. 1 ranked heavyweight in the country and got ahead of him 9-2 before pinning him to get third place.

"As we were driving back to the hotel he kept saying how he felt no pressure and so



Albright

what that taught me was that next year we're going to work on relaxation 100 percent more. We need to break the situation down to a one on one wrestling match and set all the outside distractions aside, even if it is the national final. If you're going to do your best, you have to be relaxed."

As the date for signing recruits approached, Neumann was nothing short of that. He was courting two wrestlers who live just 20 miles from the Iowa State campus.

"Up until three or four years ago, we had to recruit with facilities and promises that we were going to be good,"

Neumann said. "Three years ago we were sixth, and then we were sixth again and then fourth in 1984, so we could actually recruit on our short-term reputation.

"But then last year we were 8-14 and 42nd in the country, so everybody was looking at us this year saying, well, is Nebraska done or was that just really because they had all those freshmen wrestling? With the season we put together, we did prove to an awful lot of people that that was just a one-year downer."

Neumann has recruited enough quality athletes that he'll redshirt four, and possibly five, starters from the 1985-86 team next season.

"We're looking at next year doing better than we did this year, but it's going to be tough," Neumann admitted. "We're looking at finishing 10th in the country and probably fourth in the Big Eight again. But the next year, and two, three, four years from now, if we aren't a consistent top five team with the potential to be No. 1, 2 or 3, then we aren't doing our job.

"We're trying to beat the Iowa's with less quality wrestlers. The kids (Iowa Coach) Dan Gable has believe they're the best and I tell my kids that that's what we're shooting for. There's no reason we can't be anywhere we want to be with this program."

Albright also sees a bright picture for Neumann's teams.

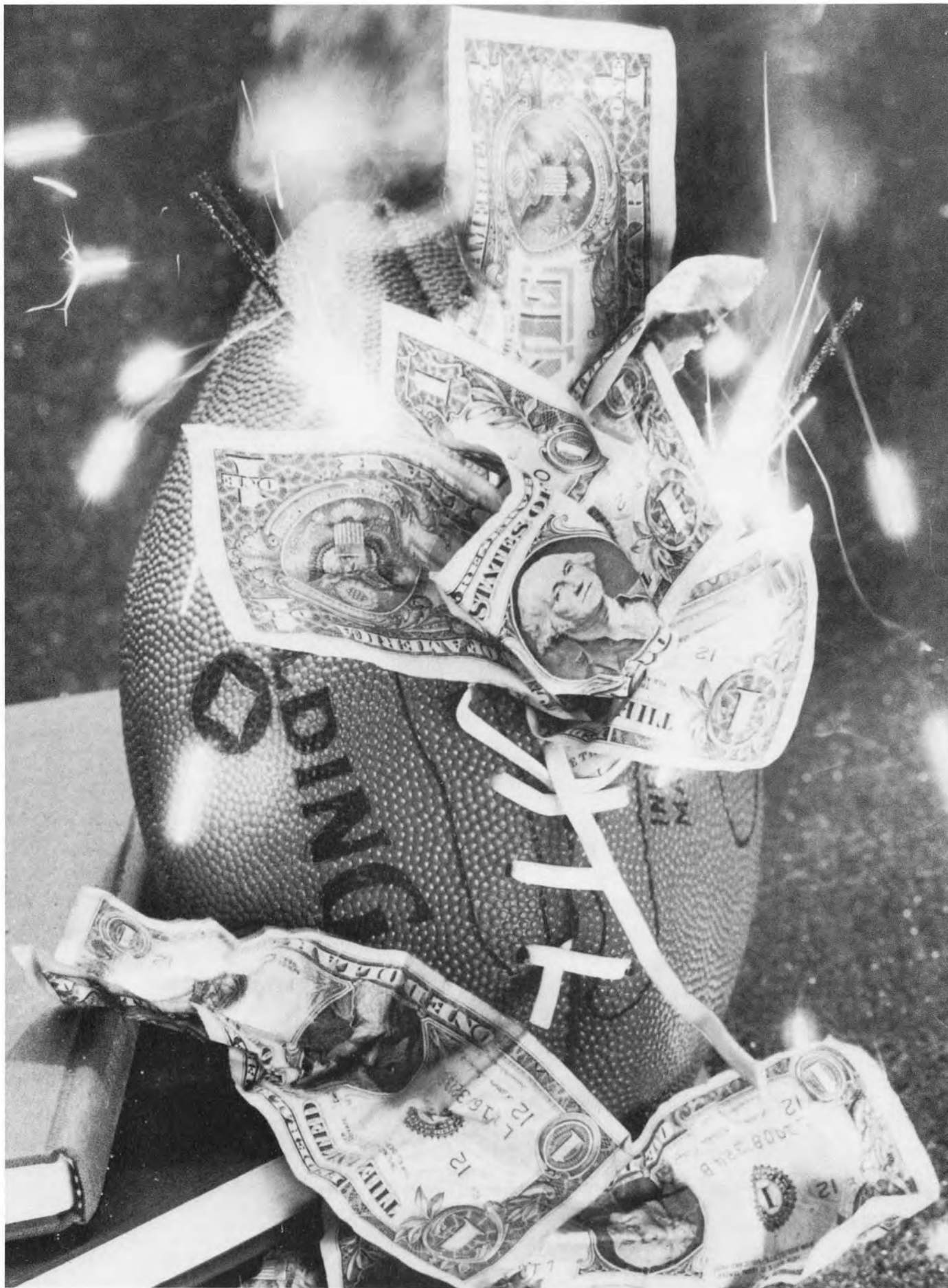
"This year's team was really good, the best all-around team that we had while I was here," he said. "We didn't finish as high as a couple years ago, but the all-around talent was good. At least I could watch the rest of the guys wrestle thinking they could win. When we finished fourth in 1984 it was all Bill and Jim Scheer and myself scoring the points. We'd even go into the lockerroom for some matches because we knew we'd lose. That's not going to happen with Tim there — he's real serious about winning a national championship."

Albright could be too, if he decides to try the pro rasslin circuit.

"Right now I'm enjoying my semi-retirement, but I might get into it for a while and make some money," he said. "I'd love to be a bad guy. Heck, when I was a freshman I set the team record for most points lost in a year. I lost 18 points for various reasons, yelling at an official and throwing a guy into a scoreboard. Getting the fans riled is what wrestling is all about."

"We're thinking of getting Albright in here next year against some all-star wrestler and have them put on a display before one of our matches," Neumann joked. "Albright against Hulk Hogan — that would draw some people."

If he keeps believing in his dreams, Neumann won't need any gimmicks to draw people. Anyone would come watch a national champion. ♦



Von Sheppard is thankful to God, Pell Grants and Tracy Dillwood. Without them, he doesn't know how he could handle one of the major problems being faced by college athletes today: lack of spending money.

Don't get the St. Paul, Mn., native wrong. He's also thankful to the NCAA for having a college athletics program that allows schools to provide what they do in the way of benefits for athletes. And he's thankful to the University of Nebraska for giving him one of its 95 football scholarships and the opportunity to compete in a program recognized as one of the top two or three in the nation.

But Sheppard is one of thousands of college athletes caught up in the harsh reality of the times. The scholarship he was awarded pays for room, board, tuition and books. If he wants a haircut, a tank full of gas for his car (if he can afford a car), a trip home, a night out at the movies or anything else that costs money, he's on his own. Not only is the school (and its supporters) prohibited from doling out any extra funds to needy athletes, but the athletes are prohibited from holding any part-time or full-time jobs during the school year.

If Mom and Dad can't send money from home, the college athlete has a major prob-

lem.

It's a problem which is getting more and more national attention from the public — from the media and from college administrators. And in recent months it's a problem which is being addressed by the NCAA.

But it is not a problem which can be easily solved. Should the NCAA give colleges permission to pay its athletes? Would that make them professionals? Before most of today's college jocks were born, the NCAA allowed \$15 a month for "laundry" money to each athlete. At one time, that much money would help. What would it take to help now? Would \$50 a month be enough? Or \$100?

And who should get paid? Only those involved in revenue-producing sports (usually only football and men's basketball come close to paying for themselves)? Should the better players get paid more than the others? Should schools with more profitable athletic programs be allowed to pay their athletes more than those with less money coming in? Should the NCAA subsidize the program?

It's little wonder nothing yet has been done by the NCAA. It's a monstrous problem with monstrous ramifications no matter what the solution — if there is one.

The NCAA works so hard to prevent college athletes from getting preferential treatment — treatment better than the ordinary college student. And yet the ordinary college student can hold a part-time job during school. He can take money from a professor who recognizes a need and a worthiness for assistance. An ordinary student can take a summer intern position in a job related to his or her major. That student can accept a free dinner from a local business person or friend he or she has met while in school.

College athletes are not treated as ordinary students.

And that really gets to young men like Von Sheppard.

"You're to the point where you're scared," explained Von, a 21-year-old wingback who has established himself as one of the Huskers' long ball threats as a receiver and a runner. "You're scared because you know that you don't have it (money). Your parents don't have it. And you have to depend on other people. That really hurts.

"But you have to swallow your pride sometimes. Nebraska football is a big thing, but people just don't realize what goes through the minds of those players out there on the field. How hard they've worked to get where they are, and the struggles they have to go through as far as school, money, the pressures in football. I'd hope that people who read this story will understand better how we feel."

Sheppard credits his family for much of

Is A Scholarship Enough?...

College athletes have a tough time making ends meet — just as other college students do. But the athletes can't hold part-time jobs to get extra money. Are NCAA shackles too tough?

By Wayne Bishop & Kevin Jeffrey

his strength in dealing with jock poverty. One of five children born to Buford and Mary Sheppard in St. Paul, Von has a very strong religious background. And he's needed all that spiritual strength in dealing with the problems he's faced since leaving home.

His mother was able to send him some money his first year when she was working. But she's been physically unable to work the past year. That's been tough on Von, tougher on his mother.

"Von really misses his family," said Mrs. Sheppard from her home in St. Paul. "We have a very close relationship, but he doesn't get to come home very often. And I haven't been well this past year, so I have not been able to get down there (to Lincoln) but once last season. And that one time I was able to go down there, it was the Illinois game, and the weather was bad, and it was really hard on my back.

"Von and his youngest sister (Angela) are really very, very close. That separation was extremely difficult. It's hard on me, especially this year. Before, I was working, and I was able to do a lot more to kind of supplement him. But when you're trying to just survive yourself, it's hard on you. It's hard mentally and emotionally — on me and on him. Angela is a freshman (at Spring Hill in Mobile, Ala.), and she has to work very hard. She is on a work-study program, plus she has to work on the weekends. But Von can't even work. Not even if he had the time to.

"Von came from a very strict religious background. But when students get away from home, they have to have something. You've got to. And I think it forces some people to do things that they would not do, or just be so LONELY because you simply don't have the money to do anything. He's not used to being out there on his own. But it takes money to call home. Or even to send a card. He used to always send me cards, or do something special. And that hurts, because he can't even afford to do that now."

The loneliness — the homesickness — really got to Von Sheppard his first year at Nebraska. It gets to almost all college freshmen, athletes and non-athletes. But soon they get comfortable in their new surroundings. And they make new friends.

Tracy Dillwood has helped Sheppard get rid of his loneliness. But their relationship — like so many others involving college athletes — creates another problem.

"Tracy has helped me out a lot," said Von. "She has a job, and we can go out and go to a movie or get something to eat. But it's really tough when you have to depend on other people. It hurts your pride. You feel so helpless. And you know your parents can't send you money. I don't mind not being sent any money. But you feel so helpless.

"When I was a freshman here my first

telephone bill was a monster. And that kept me from making many more calls home. It was very difficult for me to get up enough money to pay that first telephone bill. I'd like to go home more, but...

"Still, I'm glad I didn't go to school in Minnesota. I'm glad I made the choice of coming to Nebraska. I just don't see how the NCAA thinks a student-athlete can survive, especially when their parents don't make much money. You virtually have nothing. Summer jobs can't pay enough to last you through the school year. It helps a lot, but it won't last. The Pell Grant helps a lot. If it wasn't for the Pell Grant, I don't know where I'd be. But you can only get \$900 (per school year) if you're on an athletic scholarship. I could qualify for the full \$1,800.

"But I'm surviving. I just keep praying and God's helped me out through the rough times. I'm sure he'll help me out through a lot more. As long as I have Miss Dillwood around, things will work out."

Student-athletes may receive Pell Grant money (federally funded grants made available to college students based on financial need). But they may receive up to only half the amount other students may receive — even if they qualify for the full \$1,800.

Sheppard typifies one side of the problem. Robb Schnitzler provides a different look at the situation.

The son of a high school coach (Bob Schnitzler) in Battle Creek, Neb., Robb came to Nebraska as a walkon. When he was awarded his scholarship, he (and his family) was elated. With younger brother Craig also having walked on as a kicker at NU, the financial burden on the family was tremendous. And the scholarship helped relieve that burden.

But it created another problem. Robb had been able to hold part-time jobs as a walkon. As a scholarship athlete, he can no longer do that. Any extra money has to come from his family. And he now has a younger sister in college. An older sister is finishing up college and another went to beauty college. And there is still another sister in high school, with her college education still ahead of her.

"The scholarship really helps," admitted Mrs. Schnitzler. "Robb works in the summer, but he can't hold a job during the school year. And when you get to be a senior, there just isn't much money left in savings. They call us wanting to know what to do, and we try to say 'save.' But it is hard, especially toward the end of the year.

"It would be helpful if the NCAA would allow some extra money. Even \$50 a month would help. But I don't know if they will ever come through with that. It would sure make me feel better. It costs the boys about \$25 each way just to drive home. And sometimes they have car repairs, things like that. Things that are un-

foreseen."

Bob Schnitzler sees the same problems.

"We didn't feel the hardship on us as much until Craig walked on the year after Robb did. Things were getting a lot more difficult at home, and financially both of them were struggling — trying to make enough money in the summer to go to school.

"Right now, the biggest pinch they're having is any kind of spending money. They're not able to do things that some of the other students are able to do. They just don't have any spending money. Robb would try to get a job and earn some money, but it's against NCAA rules now that he's on scholarship. There's just nowhere you can come up with the money unless Mom and Dad come through. And last year our daughter started to college, so we have three in college now. And it just gets to the point where it's difficult to give each one \$10, \$15 or \$20 each week.

"I think college athletes should be able to receive something, especially when you're putting in that kind of time. There has to be something done right away. I don't know the exact answer, but there has to be something done. From our standpoint at home, we're the kind of parents who would really like to help our kids out financially. Then all of a sudden you run into a situation where you just can't afford to help them much."

The problem, of course, is not limited to the University of Nebraska. And the recognition by college administrators that the problem is real and needs to be dealt with soon could lead to a solution of some kind — or at least a partial solution.

"I've written a lot of papers in English classes about this, and personally I think athletes should be paid," Oklahoma State fullback Will Timmons said. "We're at a big disadvantage because we can't be paid.

"A lot of guys (participating in athletics) that come from wealthy backgrounds can call home and ask for money, where less fortunate guys like myself cannot," Timmons added. "It's hard being away from home and being broke. I'm from Arkansas, and it's hard for me to go home."

NCAA rules allow athletes to work during the summer and on other occasions throughout the year when school is not in session — including Christmas and spring breaks. Despite popular belief, however, the amount of money earned has to be consistent with what an average person doing the same job would receive. And sometimes even that money is not used by the athlete himself.

Former Oklahoma receiver Tinker Owens believes even if one were given an opportunity to work during the school year it would be almost impossible to do so considering the time it takes to practice — not to mention studying.

"It's hard in the sense that after you get out and exert yourself practicing, you're

tired enough as it is and it's tough even to go open your books after eating dinner," Owens said. "Sometimes you keep putting it off until the next thing you know you don't pass a test and then you're fighting for your eligibility."

"You really couldn't do a whole lot entertainment-wise because it takes money whatever you do. Most of the people I know found a way to survive, though. We had no choice but to accept the way things were."

Owens found the rules even more difficult to swallow for a married athlete faced with paying bills.

"Being married and having a daughter, it was especially difficult. I worked loading docks during the summer and received \$120 during the school year. It was really tough. The \$120 helped, but it wasn't even enough to pay rent."

Owens said he and his family made it off the income his wife made working at a Norman bank.

Olympic gold medal winner Al Joyner found the college experience even more frustrating.

"Participating in football and basketball is fun because they're team sports. But track is not fun," Joyner said. "In team sports you play with other people. But in track it's just you and the wind most of the time. I got up at six o'clock in the morning everyday and I had to motivate myself to run in meets against athletes like Carl Lewis and Kirk Baptiste who were running unattached and getting paid big bucks."

Baptiste and Lewis left college to run for the Santa Monica track club in Santa Monica, Calif., in order to benefit from their world-class status rather than finish school unable to capitalize financially. Joyner, though, stayed at Arkansas State University and obtained his degree, as frustrating as it was.

"People (at NCAA-sponsored meets) charge so much money at the gate for people to see you run and the schools are making millions of dollars while the athletes bust their tails and get nothing."

It's a situation which leads many athletes to look for extra money — without regard to NCAA restrictions.

"It's more fashionable to write about the sensational things like cheating than to write about the facts," asserted Louisiana State basketball coach Dale Brown, who led his Bengal Tigers to the Final Four this season for the second time.

"There's 22 million functionally illiterate people in America they don't write about," Brown said. "I've said for years that if they don't provide athletes with benefits, they're going to get agents, 'sugar daddies,' gamble and do whatever's necessary to survive. If you're hungry, you're going to break into a candy store."

Those trying to help athletes are not confined to a school's alumni. New York

based agent Bruce Fishoff, who represents movie stars like Marty Allen and Hershel McConkey in addition to sport notables such as Phil Simms, Gary Jeter, Vince Ferragamo and Lou Pinella, said many agents use scholarship players' financial limitations as an enticement to sign early.

Fishoff says competition among agents has led to many of those enticements being made to underclassmen as well as seniors.

"I've been in this business for 11 years now and I've seen agents ruin players' careers (by signing them early) a number of times," Fishoff said. "It (the agent business) has gotten very popular lately. Everyone and their brother wants to be an agent. All you have to know is a big-time player. You go offer him money and you're an agent."

Former Kansas and UCLA mentor Pepper Rodgers, whose fictional book *Fourth and Long Gone* delved into the behind-the-scenes happenings of college athletics, admitted that as a former college coach it is easy to see why so many coaches get caught cheating.

"You get involved with the players as a coach and you begin to feel for them," said Rodgers, now head coach of the Memphis Showboats of the USFL.

"It's not unChristian or immoral to cheat. It's just against NCAA rules. Your minister would probably say it was a great thing to do and proclaim you a good man for doing so."

Rodgers also believes the NCAA rules limiting athletes to tuition, books, room and board are unfair.

"I gave a clinic the other day on fairness and I gave this example (to exemplify how unfair the rules are). Say you had two players that were late for practice and let's suppose their punishment was they wouldn't be allowed to eat at the training table for the next two days. That wouldn't be fair in some instances to both players."

"It doesn't hurt players who have money to be restricted. It's the ones who come from poor backgrounds who have to work part-time jobs, who have to scalp their tickets," Rodgers said.

"To most of the fans, they're just numbers. They can't see their faces or their problems. The same with the colleges who make the rules. They don't have to walk into a home in Alabama and recruit a kid who lives in a home without heat, knowing that if he doesn't get a scholarship the best he can hope for is a job in a filling station for the rest of his life."

Coach Rodgers, however, cautioned that although the rules are not sympathetic to athletes, they still have to be obeyed — even if they do discriminate against the honest.

"The more rules there are, the more the honest person is going to be hurt. The dishonest person doesn't go by the rules anyway. But the honest person is burdened more and more by the rules."

"The problem we have in athletics is we've made heroes out of people that have cheated and did whatever it takes to win," Rodgers said. "To me, we're in football to compete, and if you notice, the athletes when the game is over shake hands and hug each other. Why? Because they love to compete. But society doesn't want you to do that. They want you to feel bad about losing."

"At the same time they praise a guy like Charlie Pell (former Florida coach fired for cheating). I'm not going out there and compete with him when he's not playing by the rules. He's got an unfair advantage because he's not playing by the rules. So you have to have rules. I'm just saying not that many. But to say that every program is going to be pure — particularly considering the present rules — is like saying every banker will be honest."

With that in mind, University of Florida president Fred Criser is expected to introduce legislation at the next NCAA convention that would call for the payment of college athletes, a move that draws mixed emotions.

"I think they should get paid," said Brown. "There's two reasons why I believe that. First, people on athletic scholarships are not even on full scholarship. That's one fallacy. They get no spending money, and that's ridiculous. Secondly, for a modern athlete to be involved with television, post-season play and all the other functions involved in athletics today, it's almost impossible for them to maintain a respectable grade point average. You miss 22½ days of school just to make it to the Final Four."

Fishoff believes the huge amount of television monies schools receive justify his beliefs athletes should indeed be paid.

"My feeling is they should pay each player \$250 dollars a week from the television monies so you can have cash in your pocket," Fishoff offered. "I think once that's done, an athlete won't have to scalp tickets or accept agent money."

"I really believe you'll eliminate 95 percent of the petty cheating that goes on if they are paid," Oklahoma assistant coach Merv Johnson said. "As long as the player knows he'll have enough pocket money to make ends meet, it would be a tremendous deterrent to cheating."

Others are not so sure. Included is legendary UCLA basketball coach John Wooden, who led the Bruins to 10 national titles.

"I think if you pay athletes you'll have fewer athletes getting degrees than you do now," Wooden said. "You go back to the older days, they weren't giving athletes anything, and more of them received their degrees and made it through school. They had to fight and work their way through the summer to make money and they learned self discipline. They were able to take care of themselves when they got out

college and a large percentage of them made it."

"Athletes today simply have to have a lot better counseling (of what's expected of them as athletes) before they start college, and that should continue into college. Just giving them more will make the situation worse. They have to learn at some point in time to make it on their own."

Wooden discounts the alleged pressure athletes are said to suffer, explaining such pain as the price everyone has to pay in order to succeed.

"Everyone has pressures to excell, not just athletes. The pressure on athletes is a lot less than that on the working man. The vast majority of students don't have what athletes have. We may do too much for them as it is. They get tremendous preferential treatment. We schedule their classes for them. We pick out a summer job for them. We pay their room and board. What we have to remember is that athletes are in school to get an education."

Former Oklahoma State quarterback Charlie Weatherbie, in Stillwater during the time NCAA investigators accused former Cowboy coach Jim Stanley and his staff of harboring a slush fund, agrees paying athletes will do nothing to help college athletics.

"There were people involved (in that scandal) who were in desperate need of spending money. But there were also a few who could have done without it," Weatherbie said. "I believe a person ought to have the right to work rather than receiving pay, though. Something has to be done because some of the cheating going on when I was in school is still going on now."

Now an assistant coach at the Air Force Academy, Weatherbie says though the faces have changed, the gist of the problem remains the same.

"Poor athletes are being persuaded because of their financial disadvantages to take money under the table. I don't think you'll ever completely get rid of the problem. Paying them, though, will ruin college athletics. There's a certain air surrounding college athletics on a fall afternoon with the fans and cheerleaders that will be ruined if you paid athletes. What you'll have then is a minor league system for professional football.

"I can't see anything positive coming out of paying athletes."

Dick DeVenzio, author of *Rip-Off U*, a book accusing major colleges of exploiting athletes, has lodged a movement to rally former players, sports fans and current players in order to gain a share of those TV dollars by demand — even if it meant a collegiate players' strike. DeVenzio says, despite popular belief, athletes do have options.

"We're trying to let people know the intelligent thing for an athlete to do is not accept the scholarship and hook up with

someone who can help him make some money and he can pay his own way through school," DeVenzio said. "The universities haven't suggested it because it is seen as against the rules. Athletes, though, are ruled by the American Constitution and not the NCAA."

Now, DeVenzio, through his newly formed organization (Revenue Producing Major College Players Association, or RPMCPA), said he's working diligently to inform high school and college players alike of their rights under the law. His most notable client to date is Terry Rodgers.

Rated one of the nation's top prepsters the past season, Rodgers narrowed his list of college choices to Nebraska and Texas, but has yet (at press time) to sign with either. Father Johnny says his son will likely play for the Huskers, but not until all avenues of whether his son can fend for himself have been explored.

"Terry has a job at a grocery store right now and he's not dependent on me for anything but room and board," said the elder Rodgers. "If he leaves here and signs a scholarship he'll be dependent on me for a lot of things because of the NCAA's limitations.

"They have people thinking it's a great deal (to sign a scholarship), but people don't realize the scholarships are valueless. Most of the people don't realize what's happening. They're just happy their son has a chance to make All-American and get publicity," said Rodgers.

Rodgers said checking out job options is one of the hold-ups over deciding where his son will attend school.

"I think you can get more out of \$6,000 dollars (the estimated value of a yearly scholarship) by paying it and working. You'd be a lot better off."

And what does Terry think of his father's idea?

"He thinks it's a rational idea. He would make considerably more than \$6,000 dollars a year and thus he could make far more money than he would on scholarship," Johnny Rodgers said. "Value for value, it's no comparison. Athletes aren't getting a minute of financial gain for what they're putting into the program. A lot of them because of their workout schedule are not able to get good degrees in something that can help them down the line.

"Colleges, on the other hand, are making so much money off athletes that it's just not honorable to not give them some of it."

The problem will not go away by itself. And it may not go away with the help of the NCAA. And while all of the talks and arguments are going on, Von Sheppard is simply wishing he had enough money to take Tracy to a nice restaurant for a nice meal... with him picking up the check. A simple wish. But not easy to fulfill under existing NCAA rules. ♦

Inside Huskers

Continued from page 13

That stretch ended with a personal tragedy that caused Rekeweg to consider giving up basketball and quitting school. An automobile accident left his girlfriend in a coma and took the life of his best friend.

Rekeweg went home to spend time with his girlfriend and "thought very seriously" about leaving the College of Southern Idaho. "But the more I thought about it, the more I realized what I would be giving up. It was too much to lose," Rekeweg said.

His girlfriend has remained in a coma but now is showing signs of improvement, said Rekeweg...

Danny Nee, Nebraska's new head basketball coach, wasted no time in hitting the recruiting trail. Because of the late start, "it's been a scramble, screening, finding out who's available," he said.

Ordinarily, the recruiting process begins when players are underclassmen in high school. "I like to screen, find out about a kid academically, his character, and then have my assistants go see him play. I'll see him play and, if possible, have him at our basketball camp to develop a rapport with him," said Nee. "Then we'll go into his home in September, meet his parents, make a school visit, a home visit and invite the youngster in for a football weekend."

Because the national letter-of-intent signing date for basketball was barely two weeks after Nee was hired, he "had to take all of that and condense it. I've talked to parents, coaches and players, all in one night, educating and explaining what we're doing here at Nebraska with our new program."

worth noting

The professional football career of former Cornhusker quarterback Turner Gill, who's helped coach in the spring, is in doubt. He suffered three concussions last season, playing for the Montreal Concordes.

The third was "very severe," according to Montreal Coach Gary Durchik. "My main concern is his health. The utmost thing in my mind is his physical condition."

That's Gill's most important concern, as well. "I'm looking forward to playing. It's what I want to do. But I want to take every precaution to make sure everything is okay with my health," Gill said.

"I've been taking tests ever since I've been here (in Lincoln). It's a matter of what the doctors decide. I think everything's gone all right because physically I'm okay now.

"But you never know," Gill said... ♦

**COULD BE THE BEST PASS
OF THE GAME.**



FOOTBALL FANS...THIS BUD'S FOR YOU.™

BUDWEISER® • KING OF BEERS® • ANHEUSER-BUSCH, INC. • ST. LOUIS



John C. Horner, Sr.
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Milan R. Franzen
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



R.W. "Dick" Bailey
Grand Island
(308) 384-0163



Lyle W. Japp, CLU, ChFC
Omaha
(402) 496-6400



Marilyn L. McClain
Council Bluffs, Iowa
(402) 496-6400



Karl L. Kollmorgen
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Lee Thiessen
Henderson
(402) 723-4400



Gaylord Marshall
Omaha
(402) 391-8585



H. Irvin Good, CLU
Omaha
(402) 391-8585



John L. Lord
Omaha
(402) 391-8585



Michel L. Rinehart
Fairbury
(402) 729-2356



Perry J. Strombeck
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575

Our game plan can make you a winner, too.

To make sure that you and your family reach your financial goals, let us help you draw up a winning game plan. A game plan that will assure your family's financial security, protect you against the high cost of illness, and build funds — tax sheltered — for a more comfortable retirement.

Call today. Helping you become a financial winner is our full-time career.

These are some of the many New York Life Agents in this area — all good people to know.

Lincoln General Office:

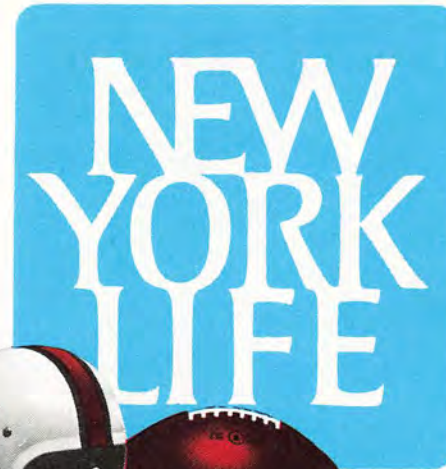
Mel Adema, General Manager
Cindy Heinrich, Office Manager
Donald Hunter, Sales Manager
Robert Lattimer, Training Supervisor
1506 First National Bank Building
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
(402) 476-8575

Nebraska General Office:

Duane D. Demaree, CLU, General Manager
Glenn E. Bartley, Jr., CLU, Office Manager
11506 Nicholas, Suite 100
Omaha, Nebraska 68154
(402) 496-6400

Sioux City General Office:

Robert W. Hartman, CLU, General Manager
George W. Molesworth, CLU, Office Manager
Dennis Carlson, Sales Manager
Ken Wilson, Sales Manager
Don Means, Training Manager
Larry Lindstrom, Training Supervisor
600 Fourth Street, Suite 900
Sioux City, Iowa 51101
(712) 279-8800



Chris B. Krause
Valley
(402) 359-2575



William S. Jones, Jr.
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Kurt P. Kollmorgen
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



John R. Chittick, CLU, ChFC
Falls City
(402) 245-5939

New York Life. For all of your life.

Life, Health, Disability Income, Group Insurance, Annuities, Pension Plans.



Robert A. Lattimer
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Anne-Marie Bobst
Hastings
(402) 462-8366



Barbara L. Kreifels
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Chris M. Wadhams
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Stan A. Andreasen
Oakland
(402) 685-6282



Virgil C. Wadhams
Lincoln
(402) 488-9092



Darryl B. Hunter
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Ron Rapp, CLU, RHU
South Sioux City
(402) 494-3003

Looking To The Air

McCathorn Clayton and Huskers Want To
Pass '86 Test

